

27/82



# ABC FISCAL HANDBOOK.

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**FISCAL HANDBOOK**

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## MR. BALFOUR at the Iron and Steel Institute,

*May 8th, 1903.*

"I am one of those who profoundly distrust the current creed—or the creed which is largely current—that the prosperity of one nation is the adversity of another; that he best serves the industrial prosperity of his own nation who attempts to depress the industrial prosperity or to snatch a share of the common work of industry from some other nation. I believe this to be utterly untrue. I do not, of course, deny—I am not Utopian enough to deny—that there is some real basis of truth, some element of reality, in what is called commercial rivalry between this nation and that nation, between one industrial community and another industrial community, just as I am ready to admit that there is a real basis of fact in the collision of interests between employers and employed. But my firm conviction is that these oppositions of interest are absolutely insignificant compared with the great community of interest in which they ought to be lost and forgotten. Nobody would persuade me that what on the whole and in the long run is good for the employed is bad for the employer, or that what on the whole and in the long run is good for the employer is not also good for the employed. What the world wants, irrespective of class or nationality, is a greater production of the things that mankind require; and the disputes as to the division of the results of this great industrial work are really insignificant compared with the interests that are involved in making the work of the world profitable and efficient. In the ordinary current controversies of the day it is supposed that what is good for one industrial country, let us say in a neutral market, is of necessity wholly bad for what are called its trade rivals. There may be some truth in it, but the truth is a petty and insignificant fraction of the whole truth, and the whole truth is that what we want is that methods of production should be improved, and that the improvement should be shared by every nation and people on the earth. The riches of one nation conduce, believe me, not to the poverty, but to the wealth of another nation, and if we could double or treble by the stroke of some fairy wand the wealth of every other nation in the world but our own, depend upon it our nation would greatly profit by the process."

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## MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN,

at the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce,

*November 13th, 1896.*

"We, in our colonial policy, as fast as we acquire new territory and develop it, develop it as trustees of civilisation for the commerce of the world. We offer in all these markets over which our flag floats the same opportunities, the same open field, to foreigners that we offer to our own subjects, and upon the same terms. In that policy we stand alone, because all other nations, as fast as they acquire new territory—acting, as I believe, most mistakenly in their own interests, and, above all, in the interests of the countries that they administer—all other nations seek at once to secure the monopoly for their own products by preferential and artificial methods."

## PREFACE

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THE near approach of a General Election in which one of the principal issues must undoubtedly be the vital question of Free Trade or Protection has, in the opinion of the Free Trade Union, rendered it desirable to issue a Handbook which may be of use to speakers and workers in their task of educating the electorate on the subject.

The original intention with regard to this book was to issue it in the spring of 1910, when the statistics of trade for 1909 will be available. That intention, however, has been set aside in view of the existing political situation; and the hastened preparation and publication of this book may perhaps under the circumstances serve as an excuse for any omissions which critics may detect.

The object of this Handbook is to collect together in a handy form statistics bearing on the Fiscal Controversy which are already available to the student of Blue Books and other official publications who knows where to search for them, and who—a not unimportant condition—has the time necessary for such a search at his disposal. These statistics have in every case been checked with the greatest possible care.

Generally speaking, this book does not deal with the economics of the Fiscal Question, which have been handled in numerous other publications of the Free Trade Union, and particularly in the "Handbook to the Tariff Question," to which this is necessarily a supplement.

As an aid to the advantageous use of this book, it may be pointed out that, generally speaking, the statistics bearing on the *general trade* of the various countries referred to will be found in the section dealing with that country. Other matters will be found under the heading to which they refer. Thus Germany's *trade* figures will be found under the heading "*Germany*"; but information concerning, for example, Germany's *shipping* and *wages*, will be found under the headings "*Shipping*" and "*Wages*." The opening part of the book is devoted to statistics of British Trade; and thereafter the various points of interest are dealt with in alphabetical order.

*December, 1909.*

## NOTE.

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THE statistics in this Handbook are in all cases derived from official sources, and especially from the publications of our Board of Trade.

The figures of **British** foreign trade, both in the general tables and in those dealing with special trades, are taken from the U.K. "Statistical Abstracts," and the "Statements of Trade" for various years, and from the recently issued "Third Fiscal Blue Book." (Cd. 4,594 of 1909).

Figures of the trade of **Foreign Countries** are taken from Cd. 4,594, and from various "Statistical Abstracts for Foreign Countries." Those of the trade of Australia, India, and other parts of **Our Empire Abroad** are taken from the "Empire Statistical Abstracts."

Figures dealing with **Agriculture, Food, &c.**, are obtained from various Reports of the Board of Agriculture. The **Shipping** statistics are largely derived from Reports on the "Progress of Merchant Shipping."

Most of the tables giving **comparative figures** concerning this and other countries are drawn from materials given in the "Third Fiscal Blue Book."

Appendix No. 1 is a reprint of the interesting White Paper No. 329 of 1909, published by the Board of Trade: and Appendix No. 2 contains extracts from Speeches of Mr. Chamberlain.

## BRITISH FOREIGN TRADE.

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ON the following pages we give statistics of British trade in its different aspects over a certain period of years.

It will be understood that in the Returns of the figures of our foreign trade, the values of "imports" are really those of our *total* imports, not of our "Imports for Home Consumption." Owing to the great entrepôt trade which our fiscal system has given us, and to our position as carriers of a large part of the World's trade, some 80 or 90 millions' worth of goods reach these shores annually which are re-exported by us. These goods are, however, included by the Board of Trade in our "total imports"; but their values, when they again leave our coasts for their ultimate destinations, are set out in our Trade Returns as "Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce." It is obvious that the figures representing the difference in value between our "Total Imports" and our "Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce" represent our "Imports for Home Consumption" which come to us from abroad and are actually retained in this country. In the tables the values of the latter articles will be found under the heading "Re-Exports," a term of usual acceptance in this connection, though somewhat misleading.

The term "exports" or "special exports" is one of general acceptance as indicating that the goods represented thereby are of native produce or manufacture.

The values of imports of this and most other countries represent the cost of the goods, plus insurance, freight, etc., and are known as the "c.i.f." values. The values of exports in all countries represent the cost, plus the charges for delivering the goods on board ship; and are known as "f.o.b." (free on board) values. In the case of the United States, the official import values do *not*, however, include freight.

**Table showing VALUE OF TOTAL IMPORTS into the United Kingdom, of EXPORTS OF BRITISH GOODS, and of RE-EXPORTS OF IMPORTED GOODS ; showing also values of Goods imported from and Exported to Foreign Countries and British Possessions respectively (in millions of pounds) :—**

Year Ending 31st Decr.	TOTAL IMPORTS FROM			RE-EXPORTS TOTAL.	NET IMPORTS.	BRITISH EXPORTS TO			RE-EXPORTS TO			
	Foreign Countries,	British Possessions.	Total.			Foreign Countries.	Bri'ish Possessions,	Total.	Foreign Countries.	British Possessions.	Total.	
Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	
Aver.	1855-9	129	40	169	23	146	80	36	116	20	3	
{	1860-4 ..	167	68	235	42	193	92	46	138	39	3	
{	1865-9 ..	218	68	286	49	237	131	50	181	45	4	
1870 ..	238	65	303	44	259	148	52	200	41	3	44	
1871 ..	258	73	331	61	270	172	51	223	56	5	61	
1872 ..	275	80	355	58	297	196	60	256	52	6	58	
1873 ..	290	81	371	56	315	189	66	255	51	5	56	
1874 ..	288	82	370	58	312	168	72	240	52	6	58	
1875 ..	290	84	374	58	316	152	71	223	52	6	58	
1876 ..	291	84	375	56	319	136	65	201	51	5	56	
1877 ..	305	89	394	54	340	129	70	199	48	6	54	
1878 ..	291	78	369	52	317	127	66	193	46	6	52	
1879 ..	284	79	363	57	306	131	61	192	51	6	57	
1880 ..	319	92	411	63	348	148	75	223	57	6	63	
1881 ..	305	92	397	63	334	155	79	234	55	8	63	
1882 ..	314	99	413	65	348	157	85	242	58	7	65	
1883 ..	328	99	427	65	362	156	84	240	59	6	65	
1884 ..	294	96	390	63	327	152	81	233	58	7	63	
1885 ..	287	84	371	58	313	135	78	213	51	7	58	
1886 ..	268	82	350	56	294	137	76	213	50	6	56	
1887 ..	278	84	362	59	303	147	75	222	52	7	59	
1888 ..	301	87	388	64	324	150	84	234	57	7	64	
1889 ..	330	97	427	67	360	166	83	249	61	6	67	
1890 ..	325	96	421	65	356	176	87	263	58	7	65	
1891 ..	336	99	435	62	373	161	86	247	55	7	62	
1892 ..	326	98	424	64	360	152	75	227	58	6	64	
1893 ..	313	92	405	59	346	146	72	218	52	7	59	
1894 ..	314	94	408	58	350	143	73	216	52	6	58	
1895 ..	321	96	417	60	357	156	70	226	54	6	60	
1896 ..	349	93	442	56	386	156	84	240	50	6	56	
1897 ..	357	94	451	60	391	153	81	234	54	6	60	
1898 ..	371	100	471	61	410	150	83	233	54	7	61	
1899 ..	378	107	485	65	420	177	87	264	58	7	65	
1900 ..	414	109	523	63	460	197	94	291	55	8	63	
1901 ..	416	106	522	68	454	175	105	280	60	8	68	
1902 ..	421	107	528	66	462	174	109	283	57	9	66	
1903 ..	429	114	543	70	473	180	111	291	61	9	70	
1904 ..	431	120	551	70	481	189	112	301	61	9	70	
1905 ..	437	128	565	78	487	216	114	330	69	9	78	
1906 ..	466	142	608	85	523	254	122	376	76	9	85	
1907 ..	489	157	646	92	554	289	137	426	82	10	92	
1908 ..	463	130	593	80	513	251	126	377	70	10	80	
1909*	..	?	?	564	82	482	?	?	345	?	?	82

\* 11 months.

## British Foreign Trade (1906-1908).

(IN THOUSANDS OF POUNDS.)

	IMPORTS FROM			EXPORTS TO		
	1906	1907	1908	1906	1907	1908
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Russia ... ... ...	30,051,	31,423,	28,176,	8,858,	11,144,	12,672,
Sweden ... ... ...	10,732,	11,067,	10,353,	5,585,	6,821,	6,364,
Norway ... ... ...	6,904,	6,614,	6,508,	3,724,	4,506,	4,089,
Denmark ... ... ...	16,434,	18,263,	19,477,	4,665,	5,530,	4,731,
Germany ... ... ...	38,022,	38,782,	38,037,	33,559,	41,360,	33,374,
Netherlands ... ... ...	36,654,	36,832,	36,359,	11,609,	13,978,	11,547,
Belgium ... ... ...	29,033,	28,291,	27,153,	11,595,	12,851,	11,661,
France ... ... ...	53,872,	52,833,	48,077,	20,445,	23,497,	22,403,
Portugal ... ... ...	3,339,	3,546,	2,953,	2,604,	2,697,	2,436,
Spain ... ... ...	15,828,	16,843,	13,345,	4,626,	5,100,	5,303,
Italy ... ... ...	3,612,	3,851,	3,441,	11,165,	14,134,	15,034,
Austria ... ... ...	1,213,	1,089,	1,304,	2,433,	4,620,	4,304,
Greece ... ... ...	2,232,	1,994,	1,913,	1,400,	1,786,	1,906,
Roumania ... ... ...	3,613,	5,085,	3,434,	1,595,	2,112,	2,003,
Turkey ... ... ...	6,075,	6,005,	5,182,	5,240,	5,350,	4,639,
Egypt ... ... ...	16,858,	22,225,	17,593,	8,936,	10,022,	9,588,
China ... ... ...	3,314,	3,472,	3,042,	12,200,	12,034,	9,217,
Japan ... ... ...	2,954,	3,242,	2,926,	12,908,	12,062,	9,912,
United States ... ... ...	131,102,	133,684,	124,175,	27,765,	30,919,	21,289,
Philippines ... ... ...	1,658,	2,099,	1,676,	1,514,	1,334,	1,060,
Cuba ... ... ...	213,	304,	296,	1,863,	2,110,	1,700,
Mexico ... ... ...	848,	2,007,	1,912,	2,326,	2,894,	2,237,
Peru ... ... ...	1,665,	2,786,	2,887,	1,345,	1,976,	1,382,
Chile ... ... ...	6,272,	6,037,	7,383,	6,078,	7,356,	3,956,
Brazil ... ... ...	9,112,	9,735,	6,939,	7,643,	10,242,	8,145,
Uruguay ... ... ...	539,	953,	1,061,	2,233,	2,526,	2,618,
Argentina ... ... ...	3,803,	26,480,	35,751,	19,429,	17,817,	16,434,
<i>Total { All Foreign Countries }</i>	<b>465,723,</b>	<b>488,671,</b>	<b>463,259,</b>	<b>254,234,</b>	<b>288,698,</b>	<b>251,480,</b>
<b>COLONIES &amp; BRITISH POSSESSIONS.</b>						
Canada ... ... ...	30,318,	28,029,	26,287,	13,689,	17,102,	12,223,
Australia ... ... ...	29,138,	33,836,	29,079,	20,229,	24,097,	22,931,
New Zealand ... ... ...	15,608,	17,784,	14,665,	7,400,	8,701,	8,764,
South Africa ... ... ...	6,338,	8,615,	7,379,	15,249,	13,725,	11,903,
Newfoundland ... ... ...	631,	330,	333,	517,	445,	437,
Self-Gov. Colonies ...	82,033,	88,594,	77,743	57,084,	64,070,	56,258,
India ... ... ...	37,833,	43,939,	29,625,	45,181,	52,104,	49,464,
Straits Settlements ...	8,903,	9,020,	7,945,	3,797,	3,899,	3,385,
Ceylon ... ... ...	4,441,	5,226,	5,135,	1,572,	1,797,	1,762,
Other Possessions ...	8,955,	10,358,	9,434,	13,707,	15,467,	14,871,
<i>Total { Colonies, &amp;c. }</i>	<b>142,165,</b>	<b>157,137,</b>	<b>129,882,</b>	<b>121,341,</b>	<b>137,337,</b>	<b>125,740,</b>
<i>Grand Total</i> ...	<b>607,888,</b>	<b>645,808,</b>	<b>593,141,</b>	<b>375,575,</b>	<b>426,035,</b>	<b>377,220,</b>

*See under Consignments.*

**Table** showing IMPORTS into and EXPORTS from THE UNITED KINGDOM OF MERCHANDISE from and to (A) Foreign Countries, (B) British Possessions, the figures representing the nearest £ million.

TOTAL IMPORTS (SHIPMENTS).

Year.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco.		Raw Materials.		Manufactures.		Miscellaneous.		Total.		
	A Mil. £	B Mil. £	A Mil. £	B Mil. £	A Mil. £	B Mil. £	A Mil. £	B Mil. £	A Mil. £	B Mil. £	Total Mil. £
1899	167	43	101	50	108	14	2		378	107	485
1900	178	42	121	51	113	16	2		414	109	523
1901	183	41	118	49	113	15	2		416	106	522
1902	180	43	119	49	120	14	2		421	107	528
1903	181	51	125	48	121	14	2		429	114	543
1904	174	57	133	48	122	15	2		431	120	551
1905	172	59	136	52	127	16	2		437	128	565
1906	180	58	147	63	137	20	2		466	142	608
1907	184	64	169	72	134	21	2		489	157	646
1908	191	53	146	58	125	18	2	Under one Million.	464	129	593

EXPORTS OF UNITED KINGDOM PRODUCE.

Year.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco.		Raw Materials.		*Manufactures.		Miscellaneous.		Total.		
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	Total
1899	7	6	27	2	141	78	2	1	177	87	264
1900	7	7	41	4	147	82	2	1	197	94	291
1901	7	9	34	3	132	91	2	2	175	105	280
1902	8	9	32	3	132	95	2	2	174	109	283
1903	8	8	33	3	136	98	3	2	180	111	291
1904	9	8	33	4	145	98	2	2	189	112	301
1905	11	9	33	3	169	100	3	2	216	114	330
1906	12	9	40	3	198	108	4	2	254	122	376
1907	14	9	52	3	219	123	4	2	289	137	426
1908	13	9	50	3	185	112	3	2	251	126	377

\* Including ships.

# BRITISH FOREIGN TRADE (1895-1909).

YEAR.	MEAT, INCLUDING ANIMALS FOR FOOD.				OTHER FOOD AND DRINK.				TOTAL FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO.				YEAR.				
	GRAIN AND FLOUR.		British Exports.		Re-Exports.		British Exports.		Tobacco.		British Exports.						
	Imports.	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	Imports.	£'000	Imports.	£'000	Imports.	£'000			
1895	53,078	393	33,334	669	604	88,572	8,224	9,595	178,338	10,596	10,848	1895	11,185	1896			
1896	55,946	418	35,896	929	646	91,308	8,625	9,788	187,502	11,440	11,640	1896	11,640	1897			
1897	57,096	618	39,480	791	689	93,215	8,858	9,919	193,858	11,498	12,431	1898	12,431	1898			
1898	66,523	758	41,004	1,207	602	96,774	9,186	10,622	3,887	449	208,187	12,553	1899	12,553	1899		
1899	62,478	610	42,937	1,118	561	99,416	9,286	11,229	5,511	472	210,341	12,696	1900	11,962	1900		
1900	62,992	1,758	858	46,783	979	586	105,396	8,828	12,201	4,799	397	219,970	14,224	1901	14,224	1901	
1901	64,416	1,611	1,076	50,390	952	671	104,423	9,168	13,109	4,746	424	751	223,975	12,155	1901	15,606	1901
1902	65,984	701	1,252	48,149	921	627	103,710	7,936	14,532	5,792	439	707	223,636	9,997	1902	17,118	1902
1903	69,642	680	1,620	50,397	701	668	107,244	8,527	13,371	4,191	321	654	231,475	10,229	1903	16,314	1903
1904	68,797	1,366	1,805	48,666	719	745	108,670	8,551	13,539	4,512	245	776	230,645	10,881	1904	16,864	1904
1905	69,200	1,535	2,769	49,432	813	924	108,946	9,458	14,725	3,722	221	982	231,300	12,027	1905	19,440	1905
1906	67,881	1,399	2,572	52,026	800	1,339	113,532	9,629	16,144	4,719	221	1,061	238,158	12,049	1906	21,116	1906
1907	75,409	1,893	3,089	51,888	829	1,309	115,777	9,229	17,069	4,216	217	1,262	247,291	12,169	1907	22,730	1907
1908	72,733	1,630	3,523	49,448	744	1,053	116,785	8,283	15,962	5,167	223	1,400	244,134	10,879	1908	21,938	1908
*1909	76,192	1,301	3,115	43,440	802	981	106,761	8,576	15,946	4,570	255	1,515	230,962	10,934	1909*	21,557	1909*

YEAR.	IRON ORE, SCRAP IRON, AND STEEL.				OTHER METALLIC ORES.				WOOD AND TIMBER.				YEAR.		
	COAL, COKE, AND MANUFACTURED FUEL.		British Exports.		Re-Exports.		British Exports.		Imports.		Re-Exports.				
	Imports.	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	Imports.	£'000	Imports.	£'000	Imports.	£'000	
1895	43	9	15,434	3,027	25	256	4,576	553	16,372	303	4	1895	4	1895	
1896	26	2	15,156	3,838	58	345	4,144	425	20,304	388	6	1896	6	1896	
1897	18	4	16,655	4,505	49	241	4,267	271	24,621	416	9	1897	9	1897	
1898	16	4	18,136	4,104	35	241	4,478	343	19	22,145	424	7	1898	7	1898
1899	3	3	23,093	5,465	43	394	5,175	294	47	24,232	482	9	1899	9	1899
1900	12	1	38,620	5,751	24	377	5,575	283	56	27,876	552	9	1900	9	1900
1901	22	2	30,335	4,672	32	285	5,709	198	55	24,562	546	16	1901	16	1901
1902	4	—	27,581	5,092	58	337	5,415	296	68	25,187	647	26	1902	26	1902
1903	4	—	27,263	4,888	35	454	5,915	172	135	27,123	683	51	1903	51	1903
1904	3	—	26,862	4,599	27	501	6,598	267	131	23,638	641	68	1904	68	1904
1905	43	—	26,061	5,526	47	473	7,611	369	114	23,274	688	77	1905	77	1905
1906	47	—	31,504	6,767	27	597	9,030	496	176	27,507	913	92	1906	92	1906
1907	21	—	42,119	7,360	28	573	10,128	515	190	27,093	773	112	1907	112	1907
1908	5	—	41,616	4,975	14	413	8,901	565	72	24,306	618	98	1908	98	1908
*1909	7	—	33,972	4,565	14	457	7,574	394	89	22,022	628	102	1909*	102	1909*

\* 11 months only.

## British Foreign Trade (1895-1909)—*Continued.*

\* 11 months only.

Sheep and lamb skins excluded prior to 1903.

# British Foreign Trade (1895-1909)—Continued.

YEAR.	IRON AND STEEL AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF.			OTHER METALS AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF.			**CUTLERY, HARDWARE IMPLEMENTS, AND INSTRUMENTS.			ELECTRICAL GOODS AND APPARATUS (OTHER THAN MACHINERY AND TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE WIRE).		
	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.
1895	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
4,374	753	19,428	11,196	2,241	5,049	1,303	3,444	55	1,118	1895	1,118	1895
5,744	917	23,463	12,792	2,124	5,017	1,548	3,949	58	1,240	1896	1,240	1896
4,498	579	24,405	12,708	1,930	5,015	1,779	3,898	75	1,447	1897	1,447	1897
4,999	622	22,392	13,710	2,544	5,426	1,868	3,785	75	1,500	1898	1,500	1898
5,575	583	27,713	18,046	4,618	6,819	2,103	3,872**	75	1,917	1899	1,917	1899
7,315	457	31,623	21,845	4,812	6,473	3,872**	482**	4,059	614	1900	23	1900
7,562	506	25,009	20,073	4,739	4,353	6,832	4,353	4,163	1,266	1901	37	1901
7,910	360	28,877	19,073	4,447	6,270	4,423	4,423	4,385	688	1902	37	1902
8,662	476	30,399	18,511	4,109	6,958	4,237	4,237	4,638	876	1903	35	1903
8,217	386	28,067	20,954	4,632	6,991	3,815	6,69	4,891	846	1904	58	1904
8,589	331	31,826	21,841	5,756	8,921	3,615	529	5,115	1,010	1905	74	1905
8,360	350	39,841	28,232	7,855	10,133	3,772	649	5,882	1,188	1906	122	1906
7,215	379	46,563	28,933	7,220	11,674	4,072	939	6,434	1,248	1907	167	1907
7,682	285	37,406	24,660	6,134	8,856	3,750	589	5,492	1,264	1908	133	1908
7,250	246	34,780	22,094	5,372	7,910	3,346	597	4,891	1,174	1909*	116	1909*
<hr/>												
<b>MACHINERY.</b>												
YEAR.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.
1895	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1896	—	—	15,151	17,014	16,256	No details till 1899.	763	30	899	8,714	1895	11,463
1897	2,371	485	608	18,390	19,653	No details till 1903.	975	30	1,095	9,034	1896	11,768
1898	3,056	3,673	633	19,620	19,620	9,197	1,146	29	1,150	8,229	1897	11,986
1899	3,476	607	651	17,812	18,755	8,587	1,339	38	1,089	7,817	1898	11,630
1900	3,963	621	651	18,755	19,620	9,149	1,445	48	1,052	8,406	1899	12,259
1901	4,761	934	881	20,058	20,058	5,872	1,445	157+	1,076	8,628	1900	13,154
1902	4,450	881	21,065	21,065	22,283	9,149	2,305†	156	1,078	9,061	12,115	1901
1903	4,538	1,135	1,463	23,260	23,260	5,872	2,466	188	1,470	9,027	1,649	1902
1904	4,312	881	26,772	26,772	26,772	9,149	2,345	180	1,510	8,848	13,545	1903
1905	5,127	1,433	31,743	31,743	31,743	13	4,455	2,083	1,282	9,212	1,403	13,647
1906	5,312	1,101	31,000	18	10,018	10,567	8,644	2,017	1,79	1,306	10,104	14,537
1907	4,553	249	25,925	24	5,661	1,971	1,921	207	1,408	11,630	1,715	15,521
1908	4,099	—	—	—	—	1	6	221	1,257	10,186	1,784	16,271
*1909	—	—	—	—	—	3	5,661	1,862	188	1,304	9,677	15,300
<hr/>												
YEAR.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.
<b>MANUFACTURES OF WOOD AND TIMBER (INCLUDING FURNITURE).</b>												
YEAR.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.
1895	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1896	—	—	—	763	30	899	8,714	—	2,309	11,463	1895	11,463
1897	2,371	485	608	18,390	19,653	No details till 1899.	975	30	1,095	9,034	1896	11,768
1898	3,056	3,673	633	19,620	19,620	9,197	1,146	29	1,150	8,229	1897	11,986
1899	3,476	607	651	18,755	19,620	8,587	1,445	48	1,077	2,172	1898	11,630
1900	3,963	621	651	18,755	19,620	9,149	1,339	38	1,089	7,817	1899	12,259
1901	4,761	934	881	20,058	20,058	5,872	1,445	48	1,077	2,077	1900	12,259
1902	4,450	881	21,065	21,065	21,065	9,149	2,305†	157+	1,076	8,628	1901	12,259
1903	4,312	881	26,772	26,772	26,772	13	4,455	2,083	1,282	9,212	1,403	13,647
1904	5,127	1,433	31,743	27	6	10,018	8,644	2,017	1,79	1,306	10,104	14,537
1905	4,538	1,135	23,260	33	5	10,567	1,968	2,017	1,214	9,625	1,474	15,521
1906	5,312	1,433	26,772	28	10	1,921	8,644	2,017	1,306	10,104	1,365	16,271
1907	4,553	1,101	31,000	18	1	10,567	1,971	207	1,408	11,630	1,715	17,053
1908	4,099	249	25,925	24	3	5,661	1,862	188	1,304	9,677	1,686	15,300
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\* 11 months only. \*\* Figures incomplete before 1900. † Telegraph wire excluded after 1902. ‡ Incomplete before 1900.

# British Foreign Trade (1895-1909)—(continued).

YEAR.	YARNS AND TEXTILE FABRICS.		YARNS AND TEXTILE FABRICS.		YARNS AND TEXTILE FABRICS.	
	(1) COTTON.		(2) WOOL.		(3) OTHER MATERIALS.	
	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	British Exports.	Imports.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895	4,304	893	63,746	13,153	938	11,987
1896	4,820	1,084	69,355	12,815	661	18,044
1897	5,310	892	63,973	12,775	772	27,092
1898	5,640	1,093	64,901	11,902	795	24,494
1899	6,013	1,128	67,548	12,172	817	21,901
1900	5,194	1,064	69,750	11,476	717	20,823
1901	5,091	1,017	73,686	11,894	925	23,796
1902	6,128	959	72,458	13,011	909	21,452
1903	7,568	1,328	73,612	11,268	842	21,152
1904	6,975	1,436	83,874	11,429	994	20,608
1905	8,108	1,820	92,011	12,524	1,145	22,658
1906	9,702	3,126	99,579	12,076	1,087	21,491
1907	9,871	3,063	110,437	10,790	31,844	19,386
1908	9,476	1,797	95,056	9,500	1,123	19,244
*1909	8,949	2,297	85,221	8,960	1,064	20,082

YEAR.	LEATHER AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (EXCLUDING BOOTS AND SHOES, AND GLOVES).†		EARTHENWARE AND GLASS.		PAPER.		MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES.		TOTAL OF ARTICLES WHOLLY OR MAINLY MANUFACT'D.		YEAR.
	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	British Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	Imports.	Re-Exports.	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
1895	10,637	2,150	2,253	3,162	141	2,782	2,846	18,843	98,187	13,482	1895
1896	10,376	1,916	2,199	3,587	166	2,860	3,138	17,695	105,786	13,651	1896
1897	10,225	2,028	2,273	3,912	261	2,771	3,481	20,440	109,023	14,347	1897
1898	10,291	2,342	2,275	4,146	165	2,705	3,530	18,995	111,876	15,811	1898
1899	11,094	2,123	2,377	4,130	201	2,958	3,723	18,580	121,686	17,615	1899
1900	11,128	1,848	2,397	4,129	212	3,072	4,412	21,008	19,464	128,410	1900
1901	10,620	1,800	2,439	4,528	305	3,050	4,342	128,315	21,023	128,315	1901
1902	10,468	1,530	2,514	4,678	309	2,998	4,538	21,635	1,986	1,986	1902
1903	10,374	1,522	3,101	4,781	379	3,278	4,851	1,673	23,140	2,151	1903
1904	10,119	1,589	3,177	4,337	326	3,116	4,941	1,669	1,796	24,712	1904
1905	10,204	1,450	3,778	4,321	289	3,206	4,538	1,673	1,673	23,140	1905
1906	11,903	1,929	4,435†	4,219	183	3,660	5,729	1,22	2,064	28,917	1906
1907	10,762	1,915	4,559	4,052	201	4,049	5,674	147	2,344	28,115	1907
1908	11,563	1,733	3,685	3,700	189	3,700	5,799	149	2,315	25,840	1908
*1909	10,564	1,733	3,829	3,416	276	3,368	5,132	173	2,318	28,558	1909*

\* 11 months only. \*\* Incomplete before 1897. † Incomplete before 1893. ‡ Machinery belting excluded before 1906.

**AFRICA—SOUTH.**

Including Natal, Cape of Good Hope, Orange River Colony and Transvaal.

Area, 474,000 square miles. Population in 1904, five millions.

The South African Customs Convention includes the above Dominions, with Bechuanaland Protectorate, Basutoland, Swaziland and Rhodesia. The existing import duties under the Convention average about 15 per cent. on general imported goods, with a preference of 3 per cent. to those of British production.

The following table gives details of South African trade since 1904. For that year and 1905 the figures are incomplete, being as compiled by the separate States. Since 1906, however, the newly established Customs Statistical Bureau has given the Trade Returns for South Africa as a whole which appear below :—

Years.	IMPORTS FROM UNITED KINGDOM.					Bullion & Specie. £000
	Food, &c. £000	Raw Materials. £000	Manu- factures. £000	Total Merchandise. £000		
1904 ...	2,503	... 578	... 16,653	... 19,734	...	92
1905 ...	?	... ?	... ?	... 18,253	...	294
1906 ...	1,953	... 390	... 16,145	... 18,488	...	650
1907 ...	1,660	... 374	... 14,058	... 16,092	...	146
IMPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000
1904 ...	3,465	... 1,446	... 3,462	... 8,373	...	4
1905 ...	?	... ?	... ?	... 6,649	...	6
1906 ...	3,256	... 1,284	... 4,652	... 9,192	...	11
1907 ...	2,247	... 1,068	... 4,198	... 7,513	...	509
EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM.						
	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000
1904 ...	38	... 10,447	... 440	... 10,925	...	16,542
1905 ...	?	... ?	... ?	... 11,446	...	21,824
1906 ...	53	... 14,133	... 627	... 14,813	...	26,026
1907 ...	186	... 14,859	... 829	... 15,874	...	29,558
EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000
1904 ...	294	... 829	... 195	... 1,318	...	600
1905 ...	?	... ?	... ?	... 2,199	...	—
1906 ...	265	... 1,563	... 279	... 2,107	...	5
1907 ...	223	... 1,698	... 206	... 2,127	...	19

**AGRICULTURE—Acreage.**

The following tables show, in thousands of acres, the amount of land devoted to various important crops in the United Kingdom since 1871 :—

**TOTAL CULTIVATED AREA.**

1871-75 .....	46,984	1896-1900 .....	47,713
1876-80 .....	47,403	1901-05 .....	47,713
1881-85 .....	47,741	1906 .....	47,193
1886-90 .....	47,932	1907 .....	46,997
1891-95 .....	47,988	1908 .....	47,002

Agriculture—Acreage (Continued).

Average.		Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	All Corn.*
1871-75	..	3,737	2,599	4,233	11,544
1876-80	..	3,190	2,753	4,170	10,932
1881-85	..	2,829	2,479	4,296	10,345
1886-90	..	2,488	2,314	4,258	9,722
1891-95	..	2,016	2,277	4,371	9,235
1896-1900	..	1,957	2,180	4,177	8,817
1901-5	..	1,677	2,024	4,203	8,399
1906	..	1,801	1,932	4,138	8,392
1907	..	1,665	1,885	4,219	8,317
1908	..	1,665	1,824	4,189	8,201

\* Includes Rye, Beans and Peas.

		Potatoes.	Turnips.	All Green Crops.
1871-75	..	1,507	2,476	5,074
1876-80	..	1,384	2,394	4,874
1881-85	..	1,384	2,336	4,752
1886-90	..	1,367	2,264	4,649
1891-95	..	1,266	2,255	4,465
1896-1900	..	1,226	2,096	4,310
1901-5	..	1,214	1,908	4,174
1906	..	1,194	1,877	4,139
1907	..	1,152	1,846	4,115
1908	..	1,161	1,838	4,053

Agriculture—Average Yield per Acre.

The following table shows the average yield per acre of wheat, barley and oats in the United Kingdom since 1871. It will be seen that though the acreage under wheat and barley has diminished by the withdrawal of less fertile soil from their cultivation, the average yield has increased. The yield is stated in bushels.

Average.		Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1871-75	..	25.16	32.00	38.75
1876-80	..	24.66	31.00	38.50
1881-85	..	28.84	35.00	38.75
1886-90	..	30.80	35.00	38.72
1891-95	..	28.18	32.73	39.89
1896-1900	..	31.76	33.92	39.92
1901-5	..	30.77	33.19	41.17
1906	..	33.69	35.00	42.45
1907	..	33.98	35.64	43.76
1908	..	32.42	33.79	42.22

## Agriculture—Crops.

The value of certain crops in the United Kingdom is estimated to have been as follows in 1907 and 1908:—

CROP.	1907.		1908.	
	Total Produce. Qrs.	Value. £	Total Produce. Qrs.	Value. £
Wheat .. ..	6,900,774	11,703,000	6,566,892	10,370,000
Barley .. ..	7,546,273	9,967,000	6,840,055	9,177,000
Oats .. ..	16,799,015	15,259,000	15,453,404	13,264,000
	Tons.		Tons.	
Potatoes ..	2,977,485	12,133,000	3,917,618	9,892,000
Clover, etc., Hay	3,709,977	15,211,000	3,506,784	12,712,000
Meadow Hay	6,719,257	25,197,000	6,213,355	19,106,000

## Agriculture—Employment.

The actual numbers employed in agriculture since 1851 have been as follows:—

Census Year.	Numbers employed.	Census Year.	Numbers employed.
1851 .. ....	1,904,687	1881 .. ....	1,199,827
1861 .. ....	1,803,049	1891 .. ....	1,099,572
1871 .. ....	1,423,854	1901 .. ....	988,340

The assumption that this decrease is due to “the ruin of British agriculture” is an erroneous one. The chief causes which have led to the decline in our agricultural population are stated in a recent report on the “Decline of the Agricultural Population of Great Britain” to be as follows:—

“The displacement of manual labour arising from the greatly extended use of drills, horse-hoes, mowers, binders, manure distributors and the like must have been in the aggregate very great, and probably to this more than to any other single cause the reduced demand for farm labourers may be attributed. Alongside the influences affecting demand, and more than keeping pace with them, has been the increasing desire of the labourers to leave the land. An absolute disinclination for work on the land on any terms is frequently noted as a characteristic of the labouring class, particularly of the younger generation, and complaints that the methods of education in the rural elementary schools foster this distaste are made in many of the reports.”

It may be mentioned that in Germany also the same conditions are attracting the rural population into the towns. Whereas in 1882, 42 per cent. of the German population was engaged in agriculture, in 1907 only 28 per cent. of the population was so described. Again, in France the rural element fell from 69 per cent. in 1866 to 62½ per cent. in 1891. The same tendency is found in the United States.

## Agriculture—Live Stock.

The number of live stock in the United Kingdom for the years since 1871 is set forth in the following table in thousands. (The "horses" only include those kept for agricultural purposes and for breeding and unbroken horses.)

Average.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.
1871-75 ..	9,932	33,192	3,782	—
1876-80 ..	9,864	31,906	3,506	—
1881-85 ..	10,225	28,631	3,737	1,908
1886-90 ..	10,569	29,690	3,860	1,943
1891-95 ..	11,121	31,753	3,770	2,076
1896-1900 ..	11,179	31,052	3,874	2,051
1901-5 ..	11,504	29,746	3,786	2,064
1906 ..	11,692	29,210	3,581	2,110
1907 ..	11,630	30,012	3,967	2,089
1908 ..	11,739	31,332	4,056	2,089

These figures show a steady increase in the numbers of British live stock, except in the case of sheep, where, however, a diminution in numbers between 1871 and 1885 has been followed by a considerable increase.

## Agriculture—Wages.

The rates of weekly wages paid on sixty-nine farms in ENGLAND AND WALES have been as follows:—

1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.	1890.	1900.	1908.
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
9 3½	10 11	11 10½	13 2½	13 0½	14 5½	14 7½

The Board of Trade express the same facts in another way by the method of index numbers. Taking the year 1900 as a standard and expressing the rate of wages in the first year of each decade in percentages of that number, we then get the following table:—

Country.	1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.	1890.	1900.	1908.
England and Wales (69 farms) .. .. ..	64	75	82	91	90	100	101
Scotland (6 farms) ..	50	60	71	85	91	100	103
Ireland (10 farms) ..	56	63	71	81	90	100	105

## APPAREL. (See p. 12.)

## ARGENTINA.

Area, 1,117,000 square miles. Population,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  millions.

Argentina is a "new" State, which has been almost entirely developed by British capital, of which over £250 millions has in quite recent years been invested in the country. The railways are almost entirely in the hands of British companies, and have absorbed some £180 millions of our "expatriated capital." The result has been a great development in our trade with Argentina, as the following figures show:—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.
1855-59	...	1	1900	...	13·1
1860-64	...	1	1901	...	12·41
1865-69	...	1	1902	...	14·02
1870-74	...	2	1903	...	19·14
1875-79	...	1	1904	...	23·04
1880-84	...	1	1905	...	25·03
1885-89	...	2	1906	...	23·80
1890-94	...	5	1907	...	26·48
1895-99	...	9	1908	...	35·73

In 1908, when our supplies of wheat from other countries were failing us, Argentina came to the rescue, and by sending us 10 million quarters more than in 1907 prevented a very serious shortage in this country. Our imports from Argentina in that year included wheat £13 millions, other grain £7 millions, and meat £9 millions.

## ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

(Includes Military and Naval Stores.)

	Re-British			Re-British					
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.			
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000			
1895	...	247	20	2,493	1903	...	353	129	2,104
1897	...	291	73	1,897	1904	...	450	251	2,484
1899	...	204	57	1,980	1905	...	715	447	3,119
1900	...	446	71	2,060	1906	...	414	195	3,306
1901	...	407	61	2,473	1907	...	317	76	3,005
1902	...	401	95	1,832	1908	...	314	74	2,899

Small arms and sporting guns are our principal imports under this head, while our exports in 1908 included £700,000 worth of cannon and gun mountings and £720,000 of high explosives.

## AUSTRALIA.

Area, three million square miles. Population in 1907, 4,200,000.

In 1906 the Australian Legislature proposed to give a preference to certain British goods, under certain conditions, by raising the import duties on similar non-British goods. The conditions attached to this proposed "preference" were such, however, as to be impossible of acceptance by the Mother Country, and the matter was dropped.

In 1907 the new Australian Tariff provided for a so-called "preference," without the accompaniment of the conditions previously imposed; which was accompanied, however, by such increases in the tariff on British goods entering Australia as in many cases to be prohibitive. True, the duties on similar goods of foreign manufacture are about 5 per cent. higher; but the "preference" is of little use to our exporters. Here are some specimens of the "preferential" duties now imposed by Australia on British goods:—

	Per cent.		Per cent.
Apparel, woollen ...	35	China and earthenware ...	20
Blankets ...	25	Tiles ... ... ...	25
Socks and stockings ...	20	Slates ... ... ...	20
Hats and caps ...	30	Glass ... ... ...	25
Boots and shoes ...	30	Glue ... ... ...	25
Locomotives ...	20	Perfumes ... ... ...	25
Brasswork ...	25	Furniture ... ... ...	30
Rubber manufactures ...	20	Woodwork ... ... ...	25
Bolts and rivets ...	20	Shafts ... ... ...	25
Fancy goods ...	20	Casks and Barrels ...	30
Jewellery ...	25-35	Vehicles ... ... ...	30
Watches and clocks ...	20	Pianos ... ... ...	25
Bicycles, &c. ...	25	Brushes ... ... ...	25
Men's gloves ...	20	Stationery ... ... ...	25

It is apparent, not only from the actual existence of such high duties against British goods, but from the tone of discussions in and outside the Australian Parliament, that it is the intention of the framers of the tariff to protect Australian manufacturers fully against their greatest competitors—namely, those of the Mother Country—and we have little to hope for from any alterations in the tariff.

## Australian Trade.

From	IMPORTS (INCLUDING BULLION).				
	1895 £mil.	1900 £mil.	1901 £mil.	1902 £mil.	1903 £mil.
United Kingdom ...	16·6	25·4	25·2	23·8	19·9
British Possessions ...	2·7	4·7	4·8	5·4	5·0
Foreign Countries ...	3·5	11·3	12·4	11·4	13·0
Total ...	22·8	41·4	42·4	40·6	37·9

## Australian Trade (*Continued*).

### EXPORTS (INCLUDING BULLION).

To	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.
United Kingdom ...	23·8	... 25·2	... 25·2	... 20·2	... 20·0
British Possessions ...	3·0	... 8·6	... 12·0	... 12·2	... 15·6
Foreign Countries ...	6·9	... 12·1	... 17·5	... 11·5	... 12·7
Total ...	<b>33·7</b>	... <b>45·9</b>	... <b>54·7</b>	... <b>43·9</b>	... <b>48·3</b>

A more detailed analysis of Australia's foreign trade in recent years is here given :—

### IMPORTS FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

Years.	Food, &c. £000	Raw Materials. £000	Manu- factures. £000	Total Merchandise. £000	Bullion & Specie. £000
1904 ...	1,875	... 574	... 19,983	... 22,432	... 30
1905 ...	2,047	... 580	... 20,395	... 23,022	... 53
1906 ...	2,178	... 704	... 23,564	... 26,446	... 130
1907 ...	2,506	... 687	... 28,337	... 31,530	... 337

### IMPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	1,631	... 2,931	... 6,370	... 10,032	... 2
1905 ...	1,572	... 1,682	... 6,633	... 9,887	... 1
1906 ...	1,841	... 2,124	... 7,450	... 11,415	... 3
1907 ...	1,659	... 2,663	... 8,873	... 13,195	... 6

### EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	8,265	... 10,709	... 3,313	... 22,287	... 5,278
1905 ...	7,096	... 11,469	... 3,663	... 22,228	... 4,474
1906 ...	8,036	... 13,781	... 4,616	... 26,433	... 6,421
1907 ...	8,335	... 16,302	... 4,555	... 29,192	... 4,784

### EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	743	... 10,865	... 1,133	... 12,741	... 1,938
1905 ...	1,440	... 13,712	... 2,393	... 17,545	... 74
1906 ...	1,873	... 15,232	... 2,834	... 19,939	... 3,094
1907 ...	1,726	... 19,846	... 3,836	... 25,408	... 318

In 1907 61½ per cent. of Australia's imports came from the United Kingdom ; 13 per cent. from British Possessions ; 25½ per cent. from Foreign Countries (including 11 per cent. from United States and 7 per cent. from Germany). In 1907 72½ per cent. of Australian shipping in foreign trade was British.

A very large amount of the foreign goods which Australia imports are such as we do not produce ourselves ; and, generally speaking, the seriousness of the competition of foreign countries with ourselves in the Australian markets is greatly exaggerated.

## BEER AND ALE.

	Imports. £000	Exports. £000		Imports. £000	Exports. £000
1895	108	1,524	1903	155	1,750
1897	117	1,621	1904	154	1,728
1899	132	1,664	1905	153	1,722
1900	154	1,761	1906	159	1,816
1901	164	1,783	1907	150	1,886
1902	157	1,786	1908	161	1,698

Imports in 1908 were chiefly from Holland and Germany. United States £236,000, Belgium £174,000, India £280,000, and Malta, £114,000 were our best customers.

## BELGIUM.

Area, 11,373 square miles. Population, 7,300,000 (or 640 to the square mile).

Belgium is essentially a manufacturing country, and is very largely dependent for its food on foreign countries. With perhaps the exception of meat, food imports are free, as also are raw materials, while a 5 per cent. duty is levied on "articles which serve industrial uses," and duties averaging about 15 per cent. on other manufactured imports.

The statistics of Belgium's trade with us are most unsatisfactory, as they include a very considerable amount of entrepôt trade. For instance, British "imports" therefrom contain a large amount of German goods. Prior to 1904 it was impossible to obtain any fair estimate of our imports of purely Belgian goods; but the following values of our trade with that country are given for what they are worth. The export figures are fairly reliable, but by no means exact:—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.
1855-59	3	2	1890-94	17	7
1860-64	5	2	1895-99	20	8
1865-69	8	3	1900	23.50	10.8
1870-74	13	6	1901	24.67	8.2
1875-79	13	6	1902	26.54	8.4
1880-84	14	8	1903	27.79	8.8
1885-89	16	7			

Since 1904 an analysis of our imports of Belgian goods and our exports to Belgium of British goods is as follows:—

### IMPORTS (CONSIGNMENTS) FROM BELGIUM.

	1904. £000	1905. £000	1906. £000	1907. £000	1908. £000
Food, &c.	3,007	2,183	2,146	2,107	1,966
Raw materials	2,789	2,957	3,073	3,234	2,741
Manufactures	10,862	11,414	12,702	12,080	11,459
Miscellaneous	82	115	70	78	76
Total	16,740	16,669	17,991	17,499	16,242

## Belgium (*Continued*).

### BRITISH EXPORTS TO BELGIUM.

		1904. £000	1905. £000	1906. £000	1907. £000	1908. £000
Food, &c.	...	527	543	702	782	841
Raw materials	...	1,037	1,147	1,592	1,785	1,664
Manufactures	...	5,949	6,545	7,333	7,463	6,646
Miscellaneous	...	346	360	408	429	420
Total	...	7,859	8,595	10,035	10,459	9,571

An "excess of imports" from Belgium is due to "round-about" trade. The increase in our exports to Belgium in recent years is far greater than in her exports to us.

## BELTING. (*See under Leather.*)

## BLANKETS.

(No imports recorded.)

	Exports. £000		Exports. £000		Exports. £000
1895	...	494	1901	...	297
1897	...	368	1902	...	309
1899	...	302	1903	...	301
1900	...	310	1904	...	842
			1905	...	376
			1906	...	299
			1907	...	349
			1908	...	255

In 1908 £199,000 worth of blankets went to British Possessions, especially to South Africa, £64,000, and Australia, £43,000.

## BOOKS—Printed.

	*Re-		British Exports. £000		*Re-		British Exports. £000
	Imports. £000	exports. £000			Imports. £000	exports. £000	
1895	...	283	—	1,228	1903	...	289
1897	...	277	—	1,331	1904	...	315
1899	...	234	18	1,444	1905	...	300
1900	...	234	19	1,469	1906	...	278
1901	...	251	21	1,553	1907	...	307
1902	...	262	20	1,634	1908	...	325

\* Not stated separately prior to 1899.

† Includes maps and charts from 1895 to 1902.

Our imports are mainly from the United States and Germany, which are also our two best customers amongst foreign nations. In 1908 £782,000 worth of books were sent to foreign countries, and nearly all the remainder to our Self-Governing Colonies.

## BOOTS AND SHOES. (*See under Leather.*)

## BOTTLES. (*See under Glass.*)

## **BRASS MANUFACTURES.**

(Including Brass, Bronze, and Metal Bronzed or Lacquered Manufactures.)

	Imports. £000	Exports. £000		Imports. £000	Exports. £000
1895	... 171	... 419	1903	... 314	... 718
1897	... 209	... 491	1904	... 326	... 806
1899	... 184	... 563	1905	... 270	... 1,085
1900	... 217	... 631	1906	... 323	... 1,330
1901	... 240	... 593	1907	... 307	... 1,390
1902	... 295	... 613	1908	... 226	... 1,060

Re-exports, about £10,000 worth annually. In 1908 £590,000 of exports went to foreign countries, Holland, France, Germany, and Japan taking most. India and New Zealand were our best Colonial customers. Brass ship fittings are not included in these exports.

## **BRAZIL.**

Area, 3,300,000 square miles. Population, about 20 millions.

The following table shows the values of the imports into the United Kingdom from and exports of British goods to Brazil since 1885, in millions of pounds :—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports: to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.
1885-89	... 4	... 6	1903	... 6·74	... 5·6
1890-94	... 4	... 7	1904	... 6·24	... 6·0
1895-99	... 4	... 6	1905	... 8·11	... 6·62
1900	... 5·9	... 5·8	1906	... 9·11	... 7·64
1901	... 4·96	... 4·2	1907	... 9·73	... 10·24
1902	... 6·21	... 5·4	1908	... 6·93	... 8·14

## **BREAD—Prices—British.** (See also Food Prices and Wheat.)

The following are the mean retail prices of household bread per 4 lbs. in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin since 1898 :—

Year.		London.	Edinburgh.	Dublin.
1898	...	6·02	6·00	6·25
1899	...	5·09	5·38	5·25
1900	...	5·23	5·63	5·25
1901	...	5·00	5·69	5·25
1902	...	5·28	5·50	5·50
1903	...	5·58	5·63	5·50
1904	...	5·49	5·69	5·75
1905	...	5·50	6·00	6·00
1906	...	5·46	5·82	5·50
1907	...	5·39	6·10	5·75
1908	...	5·75	6·50	6·00

It will be noticed that since 1900 the London price has averaged considerably less than prices in the other towns. The main reason is the great extension of the milling industry on the banks of the Thames in recent years.

### **Bread—Comparative Prices.**

The following are the average prices of 4 lbs. of bread in the four great capitals, those of wheaten bread being given in each case, except that of Berlin, where the staple rye-bread is represented. (Cd. 4,594 of 1909) :—

Year.	London.	Berlin.	Paris.	N. York.
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1905	5·5	5·2	6·3	10·7
1906	5·5	5·8	6·4	10·7
1907	5·4	6·6	6·5	10·7
1908	5·75	6·8	6·5	10·7

### **Bread—Foreign.**

**Austria.**—In Austria farmers are heavily protected by an import duty on wheat. The price of bread in Buda Pesth in September, 1909, was, per 4 lbs. : White bread,  $7\frac{1}{4}$ d.; grey bread (wheat and rye),  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and brown bread (rye),  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d.

**France.**—The price of best wheaten bread in Paris in 1908 was 75 centimes per 2 kilos, equivalent to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4 lbs., but inferior bread cost about 1d. less. Bread is very largely used by the French working-class, who only eat vegetables, even potatoes, in very small quantities. It has been estimated that the average French working-class family consumes quite 1 lb. of bread per head per day.

**Germany.**—In Germany there are at least four kinds of bread. “Black” bread, made of rye flour; “grey” bread, made of rye flour with a certain proportion of wheat flour, usually not of the best quality; white bread of poor quality, and best white bread. The last is only made in small rolls, and is little used, not being consumed at all by the poor, who eat “black” bread. The first two are those commonly consumed by wage-earners, grey bread being the more popular of the two in some towns than in others. Bread is not generally sold by weight as with us. In Germany the loaves are usually sold at fixed prices—1s., 6d., and 3d.—and when the cost of bread rises, on account of dearer wheat or fuel, or higher wages, or any other factor in cost, instead of increasing the price, the weight obtainable for a given coin is reduced.

In Berlin in 1907 the average price of 1 lb. of rye bread was 1·65 pence, of wheaten bread 2·65 pence. In 1908 the prices were 1·7 pence and 2·85 pence respectively. As the average price of the 4-lb. loaf of wheaten bread in London was 5·39d. in

1907 and  $5\frac{3}{4}$ d. in 1908, it will be seen that 4 lbs. of wheaten bread in London cost less than 4 lbs. of rye bread, and half as much as 4 lbs. of wheaten bread in Berlin in either year : and the price in Berlin is increasing far faster than in London.

**United States.**—In the United States bread is usually sold in 5 cent. ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.) loaves, which vary in weight in the different towns and States from about 12 oz. in Georgia to 20 in Massachusetts. Generally speaking, the 5 cent loaf averages about 16 oz., which works out at 10d. per 4 lbs. The cause of the great dearth of bread is not so much the price of wheat, but the high money wages and rents, to which may be added the custom which demands small loaves.

## BRICKS.

	*Im- ports.		British Exports.		1903	*Im- ports.		British Exports.				
	£000	£000	£000	£000		1904	1905	1906	1907	1908		
1895	...	...	...	—	178	1903	...	...	—	...	224	
1897	...	...	...	—	211	1904	...	...	...	20	...	225
1899	...	...	...	—	265	1905	...	...	...	23	...	238
1900	...	...	...	—	258	1906	...	...	...	31	...	277
1901	...	...	...	—	211	1907	...	...	...	22	...	321
1902	...	...	...	—	196	1908	...	...	...	16	...	+284

\* Imports not stated separately until 1904.

+ £269,000 bricks, and £15,000 roofing slates and street paving tiles, &c.

There are no re-exports of bricks.

Canada, Italy, Holland, and Argentina are our best customers for bricks, by far the greater proportion of which are exported to foreign countries. The competition of imported bricks is seen to be small, and the alleged depression in the brick-making industry cannot be attributed to this cause.

## BROOMS AND BRUSHES.

	*Im- ports.		†Re- exports.		‡British Exports.		1904	*Im- ports.		†Re- exports.		‡British Exports.	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1897	...	258	...	—	...	133	1904	...	344	...	16	...	159
1899	...	317	...	12	..	140	1905	...	359	...	15	...	159
1900	...	269	...	13	...	147	1906	...	369	...	18	...	174
1901	...	289	...	14	...	156	1907	...	351	...	15	...	199
1902	...	318	...	13	...	160	1908	...	...	...	16	...	+284
1903	...	338	...	16	...	168							

\* Imports not stated separately before 1897.

† Re-exports not stated separately before 1899.

‡ British exports not stated separately before 1897.

The United States are by far our best customer, taking £33,000 worth in 1908. Our imports come mainly from Belgium (£146,800 in 1908).

## BUTTER. (*See under Foods.*)

### CANADA.

Area,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  million square miles. Population in 1907,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  million.

Till 1896 Canada had a general tariff against all countries. In that year the Liberal Party came into power, and in 1897 a preference of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the general duties was given to most British goods, excluding, however, alcoholic liquors and tobacco. This was increased to 25 per cent. in 1898, and  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. in 1900. In the Tariff Revision of 1906, though the fixed reduction of one-third of the duty on goods of British manufacture was not absolutely maintained, the average preference to such goods was left at about that figure, being higher on some and lower on others. Germany, resenting Canada's preferential treatment of British goods, withdrew "most-favoured nation" treatment from Canada's goods entering Germany in 1903; whereupon Canada retaliated by imposing on German goods a surtax of one-third of the general duties in her tariff. This surtax is still imposed. In the Tariff Revision of 1906, Canada provided for an "intermediate tariff," with rates half-way between the general and preferential rates, which is intended to be used, if possible, for negotiating commercial treaties with foreign countries.

Though British goods on entering Canada are nominally subject to import duties one-third lower than those payable on similar goods of other nations, it is a fact that the average rate imposed on British dutiable goods entering Canada is about the same as that on United States dutiable goods—viz., 24 or 25 per cent. This shows that a large proportion of the British manufactured goods imported by Canada bear a very high rate of duty, in spite of the preference, the object being admittedly to prevent the competition of British with native manufacturers.

The following analysis of Canada's foreign trade in recent years shows that the "preference" to British goods is insufficient to enable our exporters to compete adequately with "the foreigner"—and especially with the United States—in her markets.

### Canada—Trade.

#### IMPORTS FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

Years.	Food, &c. £000	Raw Materials. £000	Manu- factures. £000	Total Merchandise. £000	Bullion & Specie. £000
1904	... 962	... 1,195	... 10,569	... 12,726	... 10
1905	... 978	... 1,301	... 10,165	... 12,444	—
1906	... 1,171	... 1,402	... 11,673	... 14,246	2
1907	... 1,651	... 1,276	... 16,665	... 19,592	112

Canada—Trade (Continued).

## IMPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Years.	Food, &c. £000	Raw Materials. £000	Manu- factures. £000	Total Merchandise. £000	Bullion & Specie. £000
1904 ...	6,252	... 11,367	... 18,912	... 36,531	... 1,607
1905 ...	5,714	... 11,404	... 20,471	... 37,589	... 2,119
1906 ...	6,482	... 12,597	... 22,804	... 41,883	... 1,452
1907 ...	8,493	... 16,508	... 26,732	... 51,733	... 1,234

## EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	18,543	... 4,422	... 1,206	... 24,171	... —
1905 ...	16,127	... 3,489	... 1,342	... 20,958	... —
1906 ...	22,238	... 3,845	... 1,275	... 27,358	... 1
1907 ...	22,532	... 3,681	... 1,430	... 27,643	... 1

## EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	3,014	... 8,151	... 1,845	... 13,010	... 4,374
1905 ...	3,301	... 9,457	... 2,106	... 14,864	... 3,521
1906 ...	3,878	... 12,095	... 2,394	... 18,367	... 4,712
1907 ...	3,883	... 14,928	... 3,142	... 21,953	... 5,233

CANDLES.

	Re-			Re-			
	Imports.	exports.	Exports.	Imports.	exports.	Exports.	
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	
1895 ...	48	... 35	... 386	1903 ...	41	... 20	... 528
1897 ...	37	... 23	... 333	1904 ...	40	... 18	... 544
1899 ...	22	... 10	... 412	1905 ...	28	... 10	... 653
1900 ...	23	... 16	... 398	1906 ...	19	... 5	... 595
1901 ...	21	... 14	... 433	1907 ...	16	... 3	... 551
1902 ...	18	... 7	... 434	1908 ...	14	... 4	... 504

China, Morocco, Portugal, and South Africa are our best customers. Foreign competition is slight and diminishing.

CAOUTCHOUC.

	Imports.		Re-exports.		Imports.		Re-exports.	
		£000		£000		£000		£000
1895 ...	3,760	... 2,266	1903 ...	6,743	... 4,928			
1897 ...	4,553	... 2,796	1904 ...	7,699	... 5,022			
1899 ...	5,924	... 4,272	1905 ...	9,644	... 6,153			
1900 ...	6,986	... 3,808	1906 ...	9,967	... 6,375			
1901 ...	5,830	... 3,603	1907 ...	10,835	... 6,011			
1902 ...	5,180	... 3,552	1908 ...	8,371	... 5,731			

The import price of caoutchouc has increased from £11 per cwt. in 1895 to £14 11s. in 1908. The great extent of our re-exports is due to the fact that London has become a mart for this produce, some seven-eighths of which comes from Brazil. The

increase in our imports for home consumption testifies to the development of the British manufacturing industry.

## Caoutchouc Manufactures.

(Except Waterproofed Apparel and Boots.)

	†Re- *Imports. £000			‡British Exports. £000			†Re- *Imports. £000			‡British Exports. £000		
	exports.	...	Exports.	...	Exports.	...	exports.	...	Exports.	...	Exports.	...
1895	... 550	...	38	...	1,191		1903	... 519	...	31	...	1,202
1897	... 611	...	44	...	1,230		1904	... 602	...	30	...	1,214
1899	... 692	...	27	...	1,389		1905	... 683	...	60	...	1,328
1900	... 712	...	46	...	1,423		1906	... 722	...	69	...	1,523
1901	... 444	...	17	...	1,086		1907	... 693	...	75	...	1,689
1902	... 491	...	26	...	1,053		1908	... 483	...	61	...	1,447

\* Exclusive in 1903 and subsequent years of waterproof apparel.

† Including caoutchouc boots and shoes in years prior to 1901.

‡ From 1901 caoutchouc boots and shoes and waterproof apparel are excluded. In 1908 the former were valued at £196,000, the latter at £266,000.

Our imports come mainly from Germany and the United States, while foreign countries are our best customers, taking £1,105,000 worth in 1908. Our exports to France in that year amounted to £367,000, and to Germany £104,000.

## CARPETS AND RUGS.

	*Carpets only.			*Carpets only.						
	Re- Imports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000	Re- Imports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000				
1895	... —	...	—	... 853	1903	... 568	...	198	...	948
1897	... —	...	—	... 761	1904	... 463	...	144	...	953
1899	... 513	...	140	... 911	1905	... 537	...	243	...	976
1900	... 573	...	175	... 920	1906	... 581	...	235	...	1,123
1901	... 459	...	168	... 830	1907	... 594	...	204	...	1,232
1902	... 502	...	218	... 870	1908	... 460	...	228	...	776

Imports are mostly from Turkey and India. Very nearly one-half of our total imports are re-exported, and the amount of competition of foreign against British manufacturers is small, our imports for home consumption being mainly Oriental carpets. Canada is by far our best customer abroad, for some years past taking about one-third of our exports; but she failed us in 1908, reducing her purchases by £150,000 as compared with 1907.

**CATTLE.** (*See under Agriculture and Food.*)

**CATTLE CAKE.** (*See Oil and Seed Cake.*)

CEMENT.

	Imports.					British Exports.		
	£000	000tons	£000	000tons	£000	000tons	£000	000tons
1897	...	...	42	...	—	...	647	...
1898	...	...	182	...	—	...	609	...
1899	...	...	246	...	—	...	691	...
1900	...	...	212	...	105	...	673	...
1901	...	...	378	...	221	...	584	...
1902	...	...	393	...	241	...	521	...
1903	...	...	410	...	261	...	677	...
1904	...	...	393	...	273	...	682	...
1905	...	...	300	...	235	...	720	...
1906	...	...	222	...	172	...	997	...
1907	...	...	151	...	114	...	1,268	...
1908	...	...	115	...	94	...	956	...

Our total output of cement is estimated to be about 3 million tons per annum, so our foreign trade is relatively not very important. Almost all our imports come from Belgium, and consist of a most inferior brand of slag cement, which is almost useless; but, as will be seen, they have fallen off enormously in recent years—a fact on which our Consul in Belgium congratulates us as indicating our return to common sense, in his report for 1908.

CHEESE. (*See under Food.*)CHEMICALS. (*See p. 11.*)CHINA.

Area, about 4 million square miles. Population, 400 millions.

The exclusiveness of the Chinese policy has barred the development of the country, which is one of the richest in natural resources in the whole world, to an extraordinary degree. After centuries of civilisation, her total foreign trade amounts to little over £100 millions.

The following table shows the values of the imports into the United Kingdom from and exports of British goods to China (including Hong Kong) since 1875 in millions of pounds :—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.
1875-79	...	13	1902	...	3·0
1880-84	...	11	1903	...	3·3
1885-89	...	7	1904	...	3·23
1890-94	...	4	1905	...	2·73
1895-99	...	3	1906	...	3·95
1900	...	2·4	1907	...	4·09
1901	...	2·73	1908	...	3·59

Our principal imports from China in 1908 were tea £756,000 and silk £786,000; our exports thereto included cotton goods, £7,640,000; machinery, £567,000; metals and metal goods, £959,000; woollen goods, £597,000.

## **CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND PORCELAIN.**

	Re-			Re-			
	Imports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000	Imports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000	
1895	... 687	... 60	... 1,779	1903	... 1,053	... 265	... 1,944
1897	... 905	... 181	... 1,726	1904	... 958	... 193	... 1,786
1899	... 921	... 142	... 1,872	1905	... 914	... 125	... 1,788
1900	... 929	... 152	... 1,852	1906	... 950	... 105	... 2,055
1901	... 999	... 241	... 1,814	1907	... 1,004	... 124	... 2,358
1902	... 981	... 239	... 1,732	1908	... 917	... 125	... 2,093

Imports mostly come from Germany and France. The United States and Canada are by far our best customers abroad.

## **CLOCKS AND WATCHES (and parts thereof).**

	Imports. £000		Exports. £000	
	Clocks.	Watches.	Clocks & Watches.	Clocks & Watches.
1895	... 475	... 828	... 70	... 70
1897	... 537	... 1,241	... 81	... 81
1899	... 573	... 1,530	... 79	... 79
1900	... 540	... 1,364	... 84	... 84
1901	... 526	... 1,548	... 104	... 104
1902	... 450	... 1,240	... 102	... 102
1903	... 434	... 996	... 76	... 76
1904	... 407	... 822	... 60	... 60
1905	... 460	... 895	... 72	... 72
1906	... 459	... 833	... 76	... 76
1907	... 506	... 919	... 68	... 68
1908	... 433	... 962	... 39	... 39

## **COAL. (See also under Minerals.)**

### **Coal—Export Duty.**

Certain Tariff Reformers, whose business or political interests are not closely associated with parts of the country where coal mining is the chief industry, are in favour of reimposing the coal export tax, which was enforced as a war tax in 1901 and taken off in 1906. During its existence it had inflicted severe hardship on the coal industry, and seriously handicapped our rapidly developing export trade.

Coal constitutes more than three-quarters of our total exports in bulk, and probably three-fourths of our coal exports are carried in British vessels, which but for coal would have no outward cargoes to carry at all. It is bulk which gives the shipowner freights. In order to bring us wheat, and wool, and cotton, and timber, and iron ore, and other material for our industries from abroad, the vessels would have to go out in ballast, and, therefore, they would have to charge homeward freights to compensate for the double voyage. That would make our raw material and neces-

saries of life so dear that we could not compete with other countries. Again, if ships could not earn homeward freights to compensate for the lack of export cargoes, they would not be built at all, and a large number of our tramp fleet are built solely for the purpose of coal carrying. In that case our shipbuilding industry would descend to the level of a third-rate Power's ; and the shipbuilding industry is our largest consumer of iron and steel, the producers of which are in turn our largest consumers of coal.

Again, the importance of the coal industry as a provider of employment is enormous. In 1908 no less than 987,813 persons were employed at coal mines, and the rate of wages in the industry is, as it ought to be considering the nature of the work, very high indeed. This is an extra reason why the development of the export trade should not be handicapped. Tariff Reformers, it is true, object to the export of our coal as the destruction of "national capital," but they point to the increase in the output and consumption of similar "national capital" of our great trade rivals as indicating our inferiority as a coal-producing country. They also, while objecting to our exports of coal to foreign consumers as "helping the foreigner," do not object to our exports of steel, which not only "help the foreigner," but necessitate the consumption of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons of our "national capital" to each ton of steel.

It has been denied that Mr. Asquith had the support of Mr. Chamberlain when he repealed the Coal Tax in 1906. There is, however, ample evidence for the truth of this. Mr. Chamberlain's secretary, writing to a correspondent on January 9th, 1906, said :—

"I am directed by Mr. Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., and to say that *he is personally in favour of the repeal of the Coal Tax*, which was imposed during the war, and which has not answered the expectations formed upon it. Mr. Chamberlain believes that the late Chancellor of the Exchequer intended to repeal it if he had remained in office."

In criticising Mr. Asquith's Budget in 1906, Mr. Chamberlain said :—"The Chancellor of the Exchequer has abolished the Coal duty. I believe I am right in saying that my right hon. friend the late Chancellor of the Exchequer indicated his opinion that the Coal Tax was one of the first imposts which ought to go in any redistribution of taxation."—(House of Commons, May 1st, 1906.)

True, Mr. Austen Chamberlain maintains that his "right hon. friend" was mistaken in this belief, and in correcting the error has stated that "Sir Edward Strachey is mistaken in supposing that I said before leaving office that if the Conservative Government remained in office, they themselves were going to take off the taxation of coal, because they thought it was not conducive to the well-being of the coal trade. I have never said anything of the kind."

But still, in a letter to a correspondent in December, 1908, Mr. Austen Chamberlain expressed the opinion that "he does not think it likely that, having been once withdrawn, the tax will be proposed again by any Government."

## Coal, Exports of.

The values of our exports of coal are given on page 9. Those values do not include the cost of coal shipped in vessels engaged in foreign trade, which amounted to 19½ million tons in 1908.

The exports of coal from this country (including these latter shipments), Germany, and U.S.A. since 1897 have been as follows, in millions of tons :—

	From		From		From U.S.A. Tons.
	United Kingdom.	Tons.	Germany.	Tons.	
1897	...	48·1	16·0	...	3·7
1898	...	48·3	17·6	...	4·5
1899	...	55·8	17·6	...	5·8
1900	...	58·4	19·2	...	7·9
1901	...	57·8	18·9	...	7·4
1902	...	60·4	20·0	...	6·1
1903	...	63·8	22·0	...	8·3
1904	...	65·8	23·0	...	8·6
1905	...	67·2	23·2	...	9·2
1906	...	76·8	25·8	...	9·9
1907	...	85·2	27·1	...	13·1
1908	...	84·7	—	...	11·8

A very large proportion of our exported steam coal, instead of going to "help the foreigner," as is erroneously supposed, is burned in the furnaces of British ships abroad, and any interference with the export would severely tax our shipping industry.

*Production in the United Kingdom, and in Germany, France, and the United States. (Million tons) (Cd. 4,594 of 1909) :—*

	United Kingdom. Tons.	Germany. Tons.	France. Tons.	United States. Tons.
1895	189·7	77·9	27·1	172·4
1896	195·4	84·3	28·3	171·4
1897	202·1	89·6	29·8	178·8
1898	202·1	94·8	31·3	196·4
1899	220·1	100·0	31·7	226·6
1900	225·2	107·5	32·2	240·8
1901	219·0	106·8	31·1	261·9
1902	227·1	105·7	28·9	269·3
1903	230·3	114·8	33·7	319·1
1904	232·4	118·9	33·0	314·1
1905	236·1	119·4	34·7	350·8
1906	251·1	134·9	32·9	369·8
1907	267·8	140·9	35·4	428·9
1908	261·5	146·2	36·3	371·3

## COASTING TRADE.

Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Austria, Belgium, and Italy, amongst the chief countries of the world, admit our shipping to their coasting trade. Of those countries who have over-sea possessions, Germany, Holland, and Denmark allow British vessels unrestricted freedom in trading between their ports and their possessions. France reserves her Algerian trade for French vessels. But British vessels take a considerable share in the coasting or colonial trade of the other countries named.

We could, of course, forbid all countries to interfere in our coasting trade, and Tariff Reformers suggest that we should do so. What would the result be? Lord Lansdowne said in April, 1904:—

"Before entertaining any idea of introducing restrictions (on foreign shipping) it should be borne in mind that if we were to exclude foreigners from access to our coasting trade we should find ourselves liable to reprisals at the hands of those countries which at present admit us to their coasting trade. This would be a serious matter. We might also anticipate that these foreign vessels which were excluded from our trade would reappear somewhere else in the guise of competitors with British vessels."

## COCOA (Raw).

	Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000		Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000
1895 ...	1,296	... 327	1903 ...	1,393	... 325
1897 ...	928	... 406	1904 ...	1,700	... 249
1899 ...	1,318	... 342	1905 ...	1,409	... 259
1900 ...	1,669	... 302	1906 ...	1,335	... 313
1901 ...	1,551	... 343	1907 ...	2,106	... 434
1902 ...	1,695	... 373	1908 ...	2,171	... 448

## CONFECTIONERY.

(Including Fruits and Vegetables preserved in sugar.)

	Imports. £000	Exports. £000		Imports. £000	Exports. £000
1895 ...	371	... —	1903 ...	828	... 801
1897 ...	394	... —	1904 ...	984	... 812
1899 ...	536	... —	1905 ...	1,056	... 894
1900 ...	350	... 607	1906 ...	1,100	... 1,038
1901 ...	578	... 750	1907 ...	922	... 1,082
1902 ...	680	... 847	1908 ...	960	... 1,092

A steadily growing export trade is to be recorded. Our imports are mainly those of specialities from France and Switzerland.

## "CONSIGNMENTS."

Till the year 1904, the Board of Trade, in its annual returns of our Foreign Trade, supplied figures of our imports from foreign countries and exports to those countries. But these figures, especially in the case of imports, were in many cases quite misleading, owing to the fact that the ports abroad from which those *imports* came were often not situated in the country whence the goods were actually *consigned*. Thus a considerable amount of our *imports* returned as coming from Belgium and Holland consisted of goods made in Germany and shipped to us through Belgian and Dutch ports. Switzerland, not having any ports, never appeared in the returns, our imports therefrom being included in the figures of our foreign trade with Italy and France, through whose ports they passed to and from Switzerland.

In accordance with the recommendations of a committee which considered the question, in future the figures of our foreign trade with various countries will represent, as from the year 1904, not the *imports* from and *exports* to those countries, but the *consignments* from and to them. Thus, the figures of our consignments from Germany include all German goods received by us, no matter at which continental port they are shipped: while our consignments to Switzerland are enumerated, though they mostly go through French ports. The new mode of setting forth the values of foreign trade is therefore far more accurate than the old one of dealing with imports and exports only; which however, being the only one now available, is the basis of all the trade statistics given in this book except in the case of **Belgium, France, Germany, U.S.A.**, where "consignment" figures since 1904 only are available.

## COPPER (Unwrought and part wrought).

		Imports.	*Re-exports.	†Exports.
		£000	£000	£000
1895	...	1,832	358	1,345
1897	...	3,040	505	1,077
1899	...	4,313	1,832	2,398
1900	...	5,277	1,441	1,397
1901	...	4,734	1,634	1,952
1902	...	4,922	1,197	1,202
1903	...	3,663	547	1,421
1904	...	5,194	431	876
1905	...	4,653	964	1,480
1906	...	6,309	1,263	1,696
1907	...	6,941	1,606	2,520
1908	...	7,226	1,186	932

\* Includes old copper.

† Ingots, cakes or slabs, and precipitate.

## CORDAGE, CABLES, ROPES, &c.

(Including Twine of Hemp, &c.)

	Re- *Imports. Exports. £000			British Exports. £000			Re- *Imports. Exports. £000			British Exports. £000		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Exports.	Exports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Exports.	Exports.	Exports.
1895	... 647	... 99	... 428	1902	... 934	... 112	... 548					
1896	... 687	... 99	... 433	1903	... 684	... 134	... 619					
1897	... 758	... 129	... 382	1904	... 772	... 141	... 667					
1898	... 803	... 137	... 405	1905	... 719	... 138	... 697					
1899	... 905	... 126	... 489	1906	... 695	... 161	... 788					
1900	... 1,141	... 142	... 522	1907	... 477	... 77	... 897					
1901	... 929	... 121	... 534	1908	... 442	... 47	... 827					

\* Prior to 1907, the returns included coir yarn.

## CORN. (See p. 9.)

## COTTON. (See p. 10.)

### Cotton—Consumption and Spindles.

	Consumption in bales, 1908-9.	Total estimated number of spinning spindles in work, 1908-9.
Great Britain	... 3,153,544	... 53,311,630
Germany	... 1,748,557	... 10,162,908
France	... 944,977	... 7,000,000
Russia	... 1,337,642	... 7,800,000
Austria	... 774,790	... 4,351,910
Italy	... 737,031	... 4,000,000
Spain	... 293,000	... 1,900,000
Japan	... 1,011,812	... 1,731,587
Switzerland	... 90,119	... 1,496,698
Belgium	... 210,217	... 1,231,165
Portugal	... 62,175	... 450,690
Holland	... 85,565	... 424,773
Sweden	... 70,947	... 450,000
Norway	... 11,260	... 75,844
Denmark	... 23,048	... 77,558
U.S. America	... 5,085,000	... 27,783,000
India	... 739,216	... 5,800,000
Canada	... 114,065	... 855,293
Mexico, Brazil, and other countries	... 174,472	... 2,600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>... 16,667,437</b>	<b>... 131,503,062</b>

The predominance of Great Britain is obvious from the above figures. Though the consumption of cotton in the United States is larger than in this country, we excel in spinning fine counts, and thus a bale of cotton worked up by us gives much more employment than a bale worked up in the States, or indeed in any other country.

## Cotton Industry—Employment.

The total number of hands employed in British cotton factories in 1907 was 576,820. In 1895 the total was 538,883, but this number included 31,510 "half-timers" of both sexes (children under 14) and 124,170 full-timers under 18 years of age. Between 1895 and 1904 there was a great and, indeed, a most desirable falling off in the number of half-timers (13,859) and of young whole-timers (14,857), and an increase of 12,863 in that of adult workers. Those who have attempted to "prove" that the cotton trade was going down hill because the total number of hands of all ages engaged *decreased*, as they did by 15,853 in this period, forget to mention that that decrease was entirely in the young workers whose disappearance from the factories could in no wise be deplored.

Between 1904 and 1907 the number of adults employed in the cotton industry increased from 396,066 to 426,366, or 30,300; of half-timers from 17,651 to 19,051; of young persons from 109,313 to 131,403. The total increase was from 523,030 in 1904 to 576,820 in 1907; or 53,790 workers altogether.

## COTTON—Exports of Manufactures, excluding Yarns.

(These figures are taken from Cd. 4594 of 1909, page 82.)

From		U.K. £mil.	France. £mil.	Germany. £mil.	U.S.A. £mil.
1890-94	...	58·1	4·2	7·6	2·6
1895-99	...	56·7	5·4	9·0	3·7
1900	...	62·0	7·0	12·1	4·7
1901	...	65·7	7·1	10·8	3·9
1902	...	65·0	7·0	12·8	6·3
1903	...	66·2	7·2	14·9	6·2
1904	...	74·9	8·4	16·6	4·1
1905	...	81·7	10·2	18·7	9·5
1906	...	87·7	12·2	19·3	10·1
1907	...	95·0	14·1	21·2	5·7
1908	...	82·2	11·3	17·2	4·2

## Cotton—Exports of Yarns.

(These figures are taken from Cd. 4594 of 1909, page 81.)

From		U.K. £mil.	France. £mil.	Germany. £mil.	U.S.A. £mil.
1890-94	...	10·3	0·11	0·9	—
1895-99	...	9·2	0·14	0·9	—
1900	...	7·8	0·22	1·4	—
1901	...	8·0	0·16	1·4	—
1902	...	7·5	0·15	1·5	—
1903	...	7·4	0·18	1·6	—
1904	...	9·0	0·27	1·5	0·04
1905	...	10·3	0·77	1·7	0·06
1906	...	11·8	0·75	1·6	0·08
1907	...	15·4	0·76	1·9	0·07
1908	...	12·9	0·39	1·5	0·08

Cotton Manufactures. (*See p. 12.*)CUSTOMS DUTIES—BRITISH. (*See also Import Duties.*)

The following table gives net amounts of Customs and Excise Duties collected in the United Kingdom during each of the two financial years 1907-8 and 1908-9 :—

					Amount.	
					1907-8. £	1908-9. £.
	Customs.					
Chicory	...	...	...	...	47,510	...
Cocoa, cocoa husks, and chocolate	...				286,918	..
Coffee	...	...	...	...	183,624	...
Currants	...	...	..	...	126,139	...
Raisins	...	...	...	...	223,822	..
Other dried fruit	...	...	...	...	106,531	...
Spirits, Foreign and Colonial :—						
Rum	...	...	...	...	2,402,587	...
Brandy	...	...	...	..	1,186,181	...
Geneva	...	...	...	...	248,109	...
Other sorts	...	...	...	..	296,147	...
Sugar :—						
Refined and unrefined	...	...	...	...	6,302,780	...
Molasses and glucose	...	...	...	...	252,812	...
Articles containing sugar and saccharin					152,217	...
Tea	...	...	...	...	5,807,947	...
Tobacco and snuff	...	...	...	...	13,739,378	...
Wine	...	...	...	...	1,177,494	...
Other receipts	...	...	...	...	41,798	...
Total customs	...	...	...	...	<hr/> 32,581,994	<hr/> 29,158,057
	Excise.					
Beer	...	...	...	...	13,116,964	...
Spirits	...	...	...	...	17,705,793	...
Chicory	...	...	...	...	761	...
Coffee mixture labels	...	...	...	...	1,934	...
Railway passenger duty	...	...	...	...	345,061	...
Glucose and saccharine	...	...	...	...	134,511	...
Licences	...	...	...	...	4,412,578	...
Other Excise receipts	...	...	...	...	6,983	...
Total excise	...	...	...	...	<hr/> 35,724,585	<hr/> 33,690,518

## Customs Duties—Foreign. (Cd. 4,594 of 1909.)

**France.**—In 1905 to 1908 the average annual amount of customs duties collected in France was £18,041,000, or 9s. 2d. per head of the population. Of this amount £9,995,000 was collected on food and drink, £4,617,000 on raw materials and leaf tobacco, and £3,429,000 on manufactured goods, including tobacco.

**Germany.**—The average annual amount of customs duties collected in Germany between 1905 and 1908 was £33,257,000, or 10s. 9d. per head of the population. £24,932,000 (or 75 per cent. of the total) was collected on food, drink, and tobacco ; £1,744,000 on raw materials, and £6,581,000 (or 20 per cent. of the total) on manufactured articles. This shows that Tariff Reformers are very much at sea when they promise a great revenue from taxed manufactured imports.

**United States.**—Between 1905 and 1908 the annual amount of customs duties collected in the United States was £60,565,000, or 14s. 3d. per head of the population. £17,877,000 came from food and drink, £8,972,000 from raw materials ; and £33,537,000 from manufactures. The duty on the last-mentioned is between 50 and 60 per cent.

## Customs Duties “per head.”

Tariff Reformers try to make out that our population pays more taxes per head on food than the Germans or French or Americans do, because figures show that the amount per head paid into the Treasury as a result of food taxation in the other countries referred to is lower than the amount per head paid in this country. But this argument rests on an absolute fallacy. Our food taxation ends with the amount paid into the Treasury, in the other countries food taxation only begins there. For the guiding principle of Free Trade is that all the money which the consumer has to pay owing to the price of imported goods being increased by import duties must go into the Treasury, to be used for the common advantage. Under Protection, the price, not only of imported goods, but of similar goods made in the protected country, is increased by the import duty; but only the amount paid by the consumer of the imported goods goes into the Treasury, the rest going into the pockets of landowners and manufacturers. For instance, out of every shilling which the protection of the iron and steel industry in Germany takes from the buyers' pockets, only one penny goes to the Treasury and elevenpence to the iron and steel manufactures ; and, according to Herr Gothein, whereas the Customs duties paid per head in Germany on imported corn and meat alone amount to only three shillings, the total indirect taxation on these goods resulting from

the import duties is over thirty shillings. According to figures produced by the Labour Bureau of Massachusetts, out of every £20 increased burden which the wage-earning classes have paid in consequence of Protection, £2 only went into the National Exchequer, the other £18 going into the pockets of the trusts, syndicates, and monopolies which flourish under that system of Protection. It is thus plain that Customs taxes per head of population are no indication of the real burden which a tariff lays on the shoulders of the consumer. For instance, a *prohibitive* import duty would produce "nothing per head" in revenue from imports, but would increase the price of similar home manufactures very considerably.

### CUTLERY. (*See also p. 11.*)

	Imports. £000	Exports. £000		Imports. £000	Exports. £000
1900	... 21	... 639	1905	... 79	... 667
1901	... 35	... 637	1906	... 110	... 707
1902	... 34	... 660	1907	... 154	... 770
1903	... 35	... 685	1908	... 158	... 614
1904	... 58	... 697			

### CYCLES AND PARTS.

	*Imports. £000	+Re- exports. £000	British Exports. £000		*Imports. £000	+Re- exports. £000	British Exports. £000
1895	... —	... —	... 1,386	1903	... 99	... 23	... 849
1897	... 527	... —	... 1,430	1904	... 83	... 10	... 740
1899	... 287	... —	... 662	1905	... 130	... 11	... 936
1900	... 195	... —	... 531	1906	... 158	... 16	... 1,140
1901	... 176	... —	... 577	1907	... 171	... 10	... 1,288
1902	... 145‡	... 35‡	... 718	1908	... 156	... 13	... 1,420

‡ Prior to 1902 the returns include motor cycles and parts.

\* Not stated separately prior to 1897.

† Not stated separately prior to 1902.

In 1908 our imports included £151,000 worth, and our exports £958,000 worth, of parts. For complete machines Japan, India, and France are our best customers. Our exports of cycles to foreign countries increased from £95,000 in 1905 to £258,000 in 1908; but in that period our exports to British Possessions decreased. The large influx of cycles in 1897 was due to the "invasion" of worthless American machines, which was of short duration.

### DENMARK.

Area, 15,505 square miles. Population (1906), 2,590,000, one-half of which lives exclusively by agriculture.

In Denmark agriculture is absolutely unprotected, while the

manufacturing industries are shielded by a tariff. It is a curious fact, therefore, that 98 per cent. of her total exports consist of agricultural produce. The great feature in her agricultural system is the division of land into small holdings, and this, combined with intensive farming, efficient technical instruction in agriculture, and a great development of the co-operative principle, has brought prosperity to her community.

The following table shows the values of the imports into the United Kingdom from Denmark, and exports of British goods to Denmark since 1875, in millions of pounds :—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports. to. £mil.
1875-79	... 4	... 2	1902	... 15·73	... 3·7
1880-84	... 5	... 2	1903	... 16·79	... 4·1
1885-89	... 6	... 2	1904	... 15·91	... 3·58
1890-94	... 8	... 3	1905	... 15·42	... 4·01
1895-99	... 11	... 3	1906	... 16·43	... 4·66
1900	... 13·19	... 4·3	1907	... 18·26	... 5·53
1901	... 14·44	... 3·7	1908	... 19·48	... 4·65

In 1908 our principal imports from Denmark were: Butter, £10,985,000; meat, £6,020,000; and eggs, £1,824,000. Our exports thereto: Coal, £1,785,000; cotton goods, £432,000; machinery and metal goods, £640,000.

## DIAMONDS.

Our imports and exports of diamonds are not included in the Board of Trade returns, because these goods are almost invariably brought into and out of the country by individual travellers, or sent in small quantities by parcel post. The values of diamonds exported from South Africa to this country since 1899 are as follows :—

	£000		£000
1899	... ... 4,116	1904	... ... 5,362
1900	... ... 3,434	1905	... ... 6,662
1901	... ... 4,877	1906	... ... 9,179
1902	... ... 5,380	1907	... ... 8,829
1903	... ... 5,383	1908	... ... 4,607

## EGGS. (*See under Food.*)

## EGYPT.

Population, about 11 millions.

The cultivated portion of Egypt is confined to the neighbourhood of the Nile. Her products are mainly grain and cotton, for minerals have not been worked to any extent in recent times. About 45 per cent. of Egypt's trade is now done with this country, France and Turkey taking about 17 per cent. between them.

The following table shows the values of the imports into the United Kingdom and exports of British goods to Egypt since 1875 in millions of pounds :—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports. to. £mil.
1875-79	10	3	1902	13·76	6·2
1880-84	9	3	1903	12·98	6·4
1885-89	8	3	1904	14·30	8·3
1890-94	9	3·5	1905	14·98	7·85
1895-99	10	4	1906	16·86	8·94
1900	12·6	6·0	1907	22·23	10·02
1901	11·91	6·3	1908	17·59	9·58

Our imports from Egypt in 1908 were chiefly raw cotton, £13,699,000, and cotton seed, £2,701,000. British exports thereto included coal, £1,853,000; cotton goods, £3,512,000; machinery, £508,000; metals and metal goods, £965,000; woollen goods, £402,000.

### ELECTRICAL APPARATUS. (See p. 11.)

### ELECTRICAL MACHINERY. (See Machinery.)

### EMIGRATION.

The following table gives (A) total number of British passengers to places out of Europe; (B) total number of British passengers from places out of Europe; and (C) balance outwards—i.e., net emigration :—

		(A)	(B)	(C)
1892	...	210,042	97,780	112,262
1893	...	208,814	102,119	106,695
1894	...	156,030	118,309	37,721
1895	...	185,181	109,418	75,763
1896	...	161,925	101,742	60,183
1897	...	146,460	95,221	51,239
1898	...	140,644	91,248	49,396
1899	...	146,362	100,246	46,116
1900	...	168,825	97,637	71,188
1901	...	171,715	99,699	72,016
1902	...	205,662	104,115	101,547
1903	...	259,950	112,914	147,036
1904	...	271,435	144,581	126,854
1905	...	262,077	122,712	139,365
1906	...	325,137	130,466	194,671
1907	...	395,680	160,588	235,092
1908	...	263,199	172,043	91,156

In the above numbers, *all* British passengers are included, no matter by what class they travelled. There are no statistics available of passenger movements to and from Europe.

"Emigration," said Mr. Bonar Law, on September 22nd, 1908, "is the vital test of the whole subject of our fiscal policy. If employment is good, emigration will diminish; if it is worse, it will increase." Protection, he thinks, will put a stop to emigration from this country. Both these allegations are easily upset. In 1908, employment, though not as bad as Tariff Reformers represented it to be, was worse than in 1907; but 132,481 fewer emigrants of British origin left our shores than in 1907, while 172,043 British emigrants returned. Our net emigration was only 91,156, as compared with 235,092 in 1907, a fact which leaves Mr. Law's theory of emigration high and dry. And if Protection puts a stop to emigration, how are we to account for the number of emigrants from protected **Italy**? In recent years these have been as follows: 1904, 472,000; 1905, 746,000; 1906, 788,000; 1907, 705,000.

The **German** official emigration figures are the ones which Tariff Reformers select as "proving" that Protection would check emigration from this country. Whereas in 1881 the number officially enumerated as having emigrated from Germany was 221,000, the number has fallen to 30,915 in 1902, and 19,883 in 1908. When comparing the German official emigration figures with the British figures, it must, however, be remembered that the former apply only to emigrants proper (*i.e.*, intending settlers abroad), who leave Germany by sea, whereas the British net emigration figures represent the difference between the total number of passengers who leave our shores for some extra-European country in a given year, and those who return.

In comparing and considering figures of emigration from this country and from Germany, several broad facts must be taken into consideration. We are a colonising nation, with an enormous over-sea Empire calling for a population, and in this respect we have a record untouched by any other nation, and of which we may well be proud. Germany has no such colonies. When our people leave home, they know that there is half the world open to them where their tongue is spoken, where laws, customs, and conditions of life prevail such as they have been accustomed to. Not only are our own Colonies available, but the United States, with its enormous area and relatively thin population. When a German leaves home, he must go to a foreign country, with different language, laws, and customs. There is, therefore, in his case, a stronger sentimental inducement to stay at home than obtains in the case of our English-speaking race. If Germany had a Colonial Empire and opened emigration offices in Berlin, tempting the citizens to emigrate with the offer of free farms, as Canada does in this country, perhaps the record would be greater than it is.

German emigration has decreased considerably in the last quarter of a century. During that time Germany has become a

great manufacturing nation, with internal free trade between what were separate States. Other possible reasons for this diminution are given in the Fiscal Blue Book (p. 166) as "the expulsion of Poles from Prussia in 1885, changes in the laws affecting military service, and the social legislation of the period, especially the series of Imperial Insurance Laws," but these are due to other than fiscal causes.

Most of the emigrants from Germany go to the United States; and it is a curious fact that the number of German immigrants enumerated in the American statistical returns for a given year is always far greater than that given in the German statistics of emigrants to America.

### EXCISE DUTIES. (*See Customs.*)

### FANCY GOODS. (*Known as Paris Goods.*)

	*Imports. £000	†Re-exports. £000		*Imports. £000	†Re-exports. £000
1897 ...	1,758	... 42	1904 ...	1,375	... 56
1899 ...	1,706	... 32	1905 ...	1,171	... 62
1900 ...	1,237	... 38	1906 ...	1,085	... 67
1901 ...	1,235	... 39	1907 ...	1,186	... 79
1902 ...	1,296	... 39	1908 ...	1,042	... 75
1903 ...	1,451	... 38			

\* Not stated separately previous to 1897.

† Not stated separately till 1897.

### FEATHERS. (*Ornamental.*)

Our imports of feathers are valued at about £ $2\frac{1}{2}$  millions annually, including about £ $1\frac{1}{2}$  million's worth of ostrich feathers from South Africa.

### FISH.

	Imports £000	Re-exports. £000	Exports. £000
1895 ...	6,982	522	2,282
1897 ...	7,778	609	2,036
1899 ...	8,407	668	2,939
1900 ...	9,031	696	3,001
1901 ...	8,458	848	3,071
1902 ...	9,814	803	3,707
1903 ...	9,253	904	3,298
1904 ...	9,499	921	3,555
1905 ...	9,433	970	4,165
1906 ...	10,160	1,081	4,518
1907 ...	9,506	1,020	5,138
1908 ...	9,890	949	4,604

*Imports* include Fresh Fish, Cured and Salted Fish, Sardines, Canned Fish other than Sardines, and other sorts of Fish not

canned. They do not include fish caught in British waters and landed in our ports, which in 1908 was valued at £10,962,757.

*Re-Exports* include Cured and Salted Fish only.

*Exports* include Herrings and other sorts of fish.

## FLAX AND HEMP.

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports.	exports.	Exports.	Imports.	exports.	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895 ...	5,511	... 767	... 191	1903 ...	7,322	... 1,721
1897 ...	5,052	... 691	... 143	1904 ...	7,377	... 1,729
1899 ...	5,657	... 1,289	... 124	1905 ...	7,450	... 1,665
1900 ...	5,956	... 1,483	... 120	1906 ...	7,409	... 1,709
1901 ...	7,266	... 2,204	... 142	1907 ...	8,300	... 1,852
1902 ...	6,949	... 1,944	... 185	1908 ...	6,558	... 1,230

## FLOUR. (*See Wheat.*)

## FOOD, &c.—Comparative Prices of. (*See also Food, Real Wages, and Bread.*)

The following prices of food commonly consumed by working-class families are taken from the Board of Trade Reports on the cost of living in the countries named :—

Commodities.	Predominant Prices in October, 1905.														
	England and Wales.				Germany.				France.						
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.			
Sugar .. per lb.	0	2			0	2½	to	0	2½	0	2¾	to	0	3	
Butter .. "	1	1½			1	1	"	1	2¾	0	11	"	1	2	
Potatoes per 7 lb.	0	2½	to	0	3½	0	2½	"	0	3	0	3			
Flour, Wheaten per 7 lb.	0	8	,	0	10	0	11½	,	1	1¾	1	0¼	,	1	3½
Bread, White per 4 lb.	0	4½	,	0	5½		—				0	5½	,	0	6
Milk .. per qt.	0	3	,	0	4	0	2½	,	0	2¾	0	2½	,	0	2½
Beef .. per lb.	0	7½	,	0	8½*	0	7½	,	0	8½	0	6½	,	0	8½
	0	5	,	0	6†										
Mutton .. "	0	7½	,	0	9*	0	7½	,	0	9½	0	7	,	0	9½
	0	4	,	0	5†										
Pork .. .. "	0	7½	,	0	8½	0	8½	,	0	11	0	7½	,	0	10½
Coal .. per cwt.	0	9½	,	1	0	0	10½	,	1	4	1	4½	,	1	8
Paraffin Oil per gal.	0	7	,	0	8	0	9½	,	0	11	1	1	,	1	3½

\* British.

† Imported.

The only exceptions to the rule that the prices paid by the French working classes in October, 1905, were higher than those paid by the English working classes occurred in the case of milk

and butter. Milk, which cost 25 per cent. less in Germany than in England, was 1d. a quart, or nearly 30 per cent., cheaper in France than in England. Butter, which was 5 per cent. dearer in Germany, was 6 per cent. cheaper in France. The price of potatoes in France was the same as in England, the German price being 12 per cent. less. All the three kinds of meat chiefly consumed in England were dearer both in Germany and in France. Sugar cost 44 per cent. more in France and 19 per cent. more in Germany than in England, but the difference between the French price and the German and English prices may be partly accounted for by the difference in the kind consumed, the French workman consuming loaf sugar, while the English and German consume chiefly white granulated. Flour was 53 per cent. dearer in France and 40 per cent. dearer in Germany, but the domestic consumption of flour in France is very small. Coal in France was 70 per cent. and in Germany 24 per cent. dearer than in England, while paraffin oil was 88 per cent. dearer in the former and 35 per cent. dearer in the latter country than in England.

In the report on the United Kingdom, the price levels of different towns were compared by the amount required to purchase in each town the groceries, meat, and coal in an approximate average working man's Budget. Applying the same principles, it was found that, if the average British working man went to live in France and tried to live as nearly as possible in the same way as he had lived in England, purchasing the same food in the same quantities, he would have to increase his expenditure to the extent of 18 per cent. *The corresponding comparison between English and German cost afforded an identical result.*

### Food Prices—Increase in (Comparative).

Between 1900 and 1908 the retail prices of various foods have increased as follows. (Cd. 4,954, pp. 203-5) :—

	In		In		In	
	London.	Berlin.	New York.			
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.			
Bread	...	...	...	13	...	†29
Beef	...	...	...	8	...	25
Mutton	...	...	...	6	...	27
Pork	...	...	...	*3	...	17
Bacon	...	...	...	13	...	21
Butter	...	...	...	6	...	6
Eggs	...	...	...	7	...	12
Potatoes	...	...	...	*3	...	13
Sugar	...	...	...	16	...	*12
General Food	...	...	...	9	...	17

\* Decrease.

† Rye bread.

In most of these articles, with the exception of sugar, prices have increased far more in Berlin and New York than in London. Sugar is still cheaper in London than in either town.

## Food—Prices of.

Taking the last three years singly, and comparing them with the preceding quinquennium and with 1871-5, the prices of certain articles of food appear as follows:—

	Wheat.	Beef.	Mutton.	Bacon.	Cheese.	Butter.
1871-5	... 100	... 100	... 100	... 100	... 100	... 100
1901-5	... 51	... 71	... 84	... 107	... 86	... 94
1906	... 52	... 71	... 93	... 115	... 99	... 99
1907	... 56	... 71	... 93	... 121	... 100	... 97
1908	... 60	... 71	... 92	... 111	... 100	... 102

It will be seen, therefore, that in 1908 bacon was 11 per cent. and butter 2 per cent. above the level of the 1871-5 period, cheese was at the same price, and mutton 8 per cent. below. The most substantial reductions in price level were for wheat and beef.

## Food Products—Imports. (See also Wheat, &c.)

The following table shows the imports into this country of cattle, meat, dairy produce, fruit, and vegetables since 1861. The great increase in meat imports is, of course, largely due to the invention of cold storage:—

	* Live Cattle.	† Meat.	‡ Butter, &c.	§ Fruit, &c.
	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.
1871-75	... 5,614	... 7,317	... 11,421	... 4,352
1876-80	... 7,608	... 13,090	... 14,921	... 6,934
1881-85	... 9,804	... 15,062	... 16,411	... 6,352
1886-90	... 8,519	... 16,339	... 17,031	... 6,722
1891-95	... 8,603	... 21,967	... 22,217	... 8,614
1896-00	... 10,267	... 29,601	... 25,941	... 10,645
1901-5	... 9,545	... 38,026	... 31,313	... 13,429
1906	... 9,889	... 40,151	... 35,391	... 14,017
1907	... 8,274	... 41,698	... 33,172	... 15,516
1908	... 6,672	... 41,038	... 34,489	... 14,658

\* Consists of cattle, sheep, pigs.

† Consists of beef, mutton, pork, bacon, hams.

‡ Consists of butter, margarine, cheese and milk.

§ Consists of fruit (raw), nuts and vegetables.

Year.	Butter.	Margarine.	Cheese.	Milk (Condensed).	Milk & Cream (Fresh).	Eggs.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1871-75	7,495	3,926	—	—	—	2,076
1876-80	10,347	4,574	—	—	—	2,427
1881-85	11,620	4,791	—	—	—	2,656
1886-90	9,182	3,370	4,480	—	—	3,122
1891-95	12,802	3,306	5,108	1,001	—	3,793
1896-1900	16,377	2,476	5,632	1,441	14	4,690
1901-05	20,665	2,434	6,379	1,700	35	6,393
1906	23,460	2,734	7,610	1,564	23	7,098
1907	22,418	2,224	6,909	1,599	22	7,135
1908	24,081	2,081	6,687	1,607	33	7,183

In 1908 we imported 3,531,172 cwts. of butter and 810,046 cwts. of margarine from foreign countries, our imports from British Possessions being 679,659 cwts. and 3,401 cwts. respectively. 1,857,103 cwts. of butter came from Denmark and 639,118 cwts. from Russia. Our imports of butter from our Possessions have declined during the past few years, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand all sending us less than they did in 1904. Nearly all imported margarine comes from Holland, but such imports are gradually declining in value. Two-thirds of our imported cheese comes from Canada (1,541,502 cwts. out of 2,306,086 cwts. in 1908). Most of our imported milk, cream, &c., comes from Holland, France and Norway also sharing in the trade.

Our imports of eggs have gradually declined in number since 1904. In 1908 they amounted to 2,185 millions, of which all but 7 millions were from foreign countries. Russia sent 847 millions, Denmark 470 millions, and Germany 284 millions.

## Food—Supplies of Meat.

The following table shows percentages of Home Produced Meat to Total Supplies during a series of years. It shows that the ratio of the former to the latter has been fairly constant :—

Year.	All Meats.			Year.	All Meats.			
1899	...	...	...	55·0	1904	...	...	54·7
1900	...	...	...	56·3	1905	...	...	55·4
1901	...	...	...	54·6	1906	...	...	53·2
1902	...	...	...	55·1	1907	...	...	53·8
1903	...	...	...	56·6	1908	...	...	54·0

Our total imports of dead meat in 1908 were 19,103,183 cwts., of which 14,709,391 cwts. came from foreign countries (Argentina 5,444,086 cwts., U.S.A. 5,517,487 cwt., and Denmark 2,331,285 cwts. being the principal contributors), and 4,393,792 cwts. from British Possessions, (2,126,500 cwts. from New Zealand, 1,430,028 cwts. from Canada, and 836,088 cwts. from Australia.)

## FRANCE—Foreign Trade.

Area, 207,075 square miles. Population (1908), 39½ millions.

The following are the values of France's Foreign Trade since 1855. Imports are for home consumption and exports are goods

of French production. An analysis of the trade since 1896 is included, (in millions of £).

Average Totals.			Average Totals.		
Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1855-9	69·2	75·7	1880-4	190·9	138·3
1860-4	91·9	96·1	1884-9	165·9	132·2
1865-9	119·3	119·6	1899-4	168·7	136·7
1870-4	136·5	135·3	1895	148·7	134·9
1875-9	159·7	138·3			

IMPORTS.				EXPORTS.			
Food.	Raw Materials.	Manufactures.	Total.	Food.	Raw Materials.	Manufactures.	Total.
40·3	86·9	24·7	151·9	1896	26·1	33·4	76·5
41·1	92·8	24·3	158·2	1897	28·8	37·8	77·3
60·2	93·9	24·8	178·9	1898	26·5	37·3	76·6
38·0	113·6	29·1	180·7	1899	27·0	48·4	90·7
32·8	121·4	33·7	187·9	1900	30·7	43·4	90·2
31·4	112·5	30·9	174·8	1901	29·8	40·7	90·0
32·7	111·9	31·1	175·7	1902	28·3	46·8	95·0
38·5	120·8	32·7	192·2	1903	26·5	47·0	96·6
32·7	114·1	33·3	180·1	1904	27·7	48·8	101·5
32·9	123·5	34·7	191·1	1905	31·2	53·5	109·9
37·6	147·5	40·0	225·1	1906	28·4	59·0	123·2
41·5	160·5	46·9	248·9	1907	29·9	60·3	133·6
37·4	143·6	44·6	225·6	1908	29·9	53·6	118·5

## FRANCE—Trade with United Kingdom.

Prior to the year 1904, the figures of our import trade with France included a considerable amount of commodities which did not properly form part of our Anglo-French trade at all. The greater portion of our imports from Switzerland, for instance, pass through French ports, and their inclusion in the figures of our trade with France renders those figures only of slight value. Such as they are, they are as follows since 1855:—

Averages.	Imports from France. £mil.	Exports to France. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from France. £mil.	Exports. to France. £mil.
1855-59	... 12	... 6	1880-84	... 39	... 17
1860-64	... 22	... 8	1885-89	... 39	... 15
1865-69	... 34	... 11	1890-94	... 44	... 15
1870-74	... 40	... 16	1895-99	... 51	... 14
1875-79	... 43	... 15	1900-04	... 51·2	... 16·6

Since 1904 we have actual figures of our consignments of goods to France and of consignments of French goods received by us, and they are as follows :—

IMPORTS (CONSIGNMENTS).

		1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Food, etc.	.. .. ..	12,878	12,623	11,306	11,838	11,286
Raw materials	.. .. ..	4,869	4,990	5,570	6,407	5,276
Manufactures	.. .. ..	26,609	28,370	29,694	27,610	24,923
Miscellaneous	.. .. ..	442	475	529	479	408
<b>TOTAL</b>	.. .. ..	<b>44,798</b>	<b>46,458</b>	<b>47,099</b>	<b>46,334</b>	<b>41,893</b>

EXPORTS (CONSIGNMENTS).

		1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Food, etc.	.. .. ..	469	612	834	908	756
Raw materials	.. .. ..	4,121	4,058	5,498	7,257	7,145
Manufactures	.. .. ..	9,878	10,713	13,377	14,585	13,696
Miscellaneous	.. .. ..	726	663	598	558	569
<b>TOTAL</b>	.. .. ..	<b>15,194</b>	<b>16,046</b>	<b>20,307</b>	<b>23,308</b>	<b>22,166</b>

## FRUIT, Fresh.

In 1908 our total imports of fresh fruit were as follows, in thousands of pounds :—

Apples	.. .. ..	2,080	Other Nuts	...	...	768
Apricots and Peaches	.. .. ..	60	Oranges	...	...	2,270
Bananas	.. .. ..	1,769	Pears	...	...	516
Cherries	.. .. ..	235	Plums	...	...	427
Currants	.. .. ..	122	Strawberries	...	...	46
Gooseberries	.. .. ..	25	Others	...	...	291
Grapes	.. .. ..	728	Dried Fruit	...	...	281
Lemons	.. .. ..	472				10,650
Almonds	.. .. ..	560				

When the value of fruits such as oranges and bananas, which even Tariff Reform will not enable us to grow, and also that of fruit which France and other countries are enabled, owing to climate, to produce at an earlier period of the year than we can, are taken into account, it will be seen that our imports of fruit which actually compete with the produce of our home growers are not by any means so large as is sometimes supposed.

## FURNITURE AND CABINET WARE.

(No returns till 1903.)

	Re-			Re-			
	Imports.	exports.	Exports.	Imports.	exports.	Exports.	
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	
1903	... 797	... 34	... 940	1906	... 612	... 26	... 760
1904	... 588	... 36	... 741	1907	... 565	... 22	... 802
1905	... 577	... 34	... 731	1908	... 448	... 25	... 661

The diminution in exports is due to decreased demands of British Possessions; but our exports to Foreign Countries have greatly increased, especially to France and Germany, where British furniture has become fashionable in certain quarters. A considerable part of our imports consists of office furniture from America.

### Furniture Woods.

	Imports.		Re-exports.		Imports.		Re-exports.	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895	... 900	... 120	1903	... 1,980	... 388	1904	... 2,045	... 352
1897	... 1,631	... 173	1905	... 1,992	... 379	1906	... 1,928	... 493
1899	... 2,043	... 227	1907	... 2,220	... 419	1908	... 2,224	... 335
1900	... 2,005	... 304						
1901	... 2,063	... 302						
1902	... 1,911	... 320						

When our imports of the raw material of furniture are compared with those of the manufactured articles, it will be seen that the furniture industry is by no means so "ruined" as is frequently stated in certain quarters. About £1 million of these imports consists of mahogany.

### GERMANY—Consular Reports. (See also Living, Cost of.)

The following extracts are taken from the Report for 1908 of our Consul-General at Frankfort:—

### Protection Means Trusts.

"The development which had taken place behind the wall of Protection—the system of syndication—has killed free competition at home, and has unduly raised the cost of the raw material needed by the finishing industries. The agricultural protection as well as the industrial has moreover increased the cost of living, and has narrowed down the margin of profit. (p. 11)."

### Protection Injures Foreign Trade.

"The increased protection of the home market has admittedly rendered foreign markets more difficult for the German manufacturer. (p. 11)."

## Protection Handicaps Manufacture.

"There was no inducement to manufacture if the raw material was so expensive that the manufactured article held out no hope of profit; the consuming public, moreover, refrained from orders as long as the prices of the manufactured articles were not lowered in keeping with the change of the commercial tide. (p. 11)."

## Protection and Dearness.

"That life in Germany has become more expensive within recent years is not open to doubt; it has become more expensive to begin with because the price of food has increased. (p. 15)."

## No Hope of Cheapness.

"There is no chance of the produce of the land being materially lowered in price, as long as the present agrarian policy is pursued. (p. 15)."

## Free Trade Helps Manufacturers.

"It is quite possible that the present good understanding between the two great protected interests of the country may become impaired as a conviction gains ground that a Free Trade country can manufacture more cheaply, and can thus more easily compete, to say the least, in the world's markets. (p. 16)."

## Consumer Pays Import Duties.

"The price of corn in Germany amounts to the world's market price plus the customs rate in operation for the time being. It is the German consumer, who not only pays the duty upon foreign corn, which was voted to safeguard the agrarians against foreign competition, but also pays the agrarians a handsome profit. (p. 17)."

## Diminished Consumption.

"High prices for flour lead, and have led, to a reduced consumption of bread. (p. 19)."

## British Best Off.

"I do not think that, generally speaking, the German workman lives as well as the British workman. (p. 31)."

## Prussian Incomes.

"Out of the total population of 38,000,000, there are 36,000,000 who still have an income below 3,000 marks, i.e., 94·7 per cent. of the whole population, and so the recent increased cost of the necessities of life remains a very serious item for the vast majority of the population. (Only 2,000,000 inhabitants in Prussia have an income above 3,000 marks, and these 5·3 per cent. of the population supply 66 per cent. of the total Prussian income-tax.) (p. 33)."

## Unprotected Industries.

"Life generally becomes more expensive under a system of Protection; and while the income of the non-official part of the population tends to regulate itself in accordance with the altered aspect, by an insistence upon higher wages or the demand of a larger manufacturers' profit, the official is powerless to meet the

evil, until a vote for an increase in salaries has been obtained. Such a vote, however, is only obtained after years of hardship; and public service losing in the meantime some of its attraction, the most desirable workers are drawn elsewhere. (p. 33)."

### **Protection Hinders Export.**

"Owing to the intensified protective spirit of the last German tariff, German export has been rendered more difficult. (p. 35)."

### **Retaliation a Failure.**

"In their reports for the year 1908, a number of Chambers of Commerce (Mannheim, Plauen, &c.), openly complain, as a few had already hinted in the year before, that the treaties concluded on the basis of this tariff, which binds Germany's foreign trade for practically twelve years, had not only not assisted the export trade of the Empire, but dealt it a serious blow in several directions and quarters. The higher wall of Protection with which Germany has surrounded her markets has, as a natural consequence, induced other protected countries to raise their own walls in reply (p. 35)."

### **Protection Handicaps Trade.**

"Foreign trade fared less well in consequence of the change than did the trade of other countries. (p. 35). It must be borne in mind that the export was forced by every conceivable means, because there was a dearth on the home market. The President of the German 'Handelstag' (Central Union of German Industrials) early in 1909 said in the Imperial Diet, that all reports from the leading industrials admitted that even if a satisfactory number of tons had been shipped abroad in 1908, the export on account of the counter Protection abroad has become *unlucrative*, and that deep wounds had been inflicted upon German industry as a whole. (p. 36). It is to-day freely admitted that the difficulties of German export are due to the higher protective barriers which Germany was the first to set up. (p. 37)."

### **German Paper Industry.**

"The unsatisfactory conditions also affected the export of paper and paper goods, although the falling-off for the current year only amounts to 4,700,000 marks. It is feared, however, that this industry will only with the very greatest difficulty be able to defend its position on the world's market. It should be particularly mentioned that in consequence of the burden of duty at home, foreign manufacture has already to some extent been commenced in the United Kingdom. (p. 39)."

### **German Glass Industry.**

"The conditions in the case of glass and glass goods are similar to those in the case of paper. (p. 40)."

### **British Goods in Germany.**

"It is an interesting fact that British industry is steadily securing the German market for entirely modern articles, e.g., goods of fashion and articles of luxury. This may be gathered from the increasing export in prepared and unprepared leather,

lace goods, British cloth, plate glass, porcelain, china and high-class notepaper. For British production, then, the British lead in matters of fashion has become a valuable asset. (p. 42)."

## Protection Hinders Competition.

"The increased cost of the raw material and the increased cost of living, which have necessitated higher wages and a wider margin for employers' profits, have worked against the competitive power of German manufacturers on the world's markets. (p. 42)."

## Unemployment in Germany.

"The over-supply of labour for the whole Empire in the month of December last is shown by the following table, which sets forth the number of applicants to the Labour Bureaux for each 100 vacant situations :—

Unskilled labour	...	...	...	...	...	367·86
Machines and instruments	...	...	...	...	...	624·46
Wood and carving industries	...	...	...	...	...	515·65
Traffic industry	...	...	...	...	...	466·56
Leather industry	...	...	...	...	...	439·44
Metal utilising industry	...	...	...	...	...	390·53
Stone and earth industry	...	...	...	...	...	370·64
Building industry	...	...	...	...	...	330·74 "

## Unemployed Demonstrations.

"If less was heard of the unemployment in Germany than elsewhere, it must not be forgotten that Germany is a highly-policed country, that the sanction for processions and mass meetings is not easily obtained, when the demonstrations are likely to feed the social-democratic propaganda. (p. 56)."

## Unemployment in 1908.

"If the figures for unemployment represent chiefly the dismissals of workmen which took place in many industries (e.g., Vulkan Shipyards, Bremen, the private railway system of the Pfalz, the textile industry of Reichenberg, the chemical industry at Höchst, the paper and the leather industries (in the three latter cases admittedly a direct result of the new customs tariff), &c., the want of occupation is further expressed in the reduced working hours of the workmen who were able to keep their places, often kept in work at a direct loss to the employers. Thus intermittent shifts were introduced in many mining concerns (e.g., Nordstern, Concordia, Oberhausen), in machine factories (e.g., Thyssen); the Stahlwerks-Verband reckoned for the winter months with a possibility of only a 60 per cent. manufacturing permit for its members upon their figures of participation. The most distressing conditions of the labour market occurred in the textile industry; all its branches depict the trade conditions of 1908 as equally bad. The sombre aspect of that industry became more intense in every successive month. Everywhere extensive reductions in production had to take place; working time in Silesia was reduced in weaving sheds for coloured goods, to 5, 4½, and even to 4 days per week, from 60 to 44½ hours; a reduction of the working hours took place in the textile industry practically throughout North-Western

Germany; in Southern Germany the spinning mills were compelled materially to decrease their production. (p. 59)."

## Dear Fuel.

"Germany was the only country in which the price of coal in 1908, in spite of the falling demand, was maintained at the level of 1907, which in fact, in a few instances, it even exceeded. (p. 96). If the foreign-produced article is produced with cheaper coal it can be put upon the world's market more cheaply than the German article; the syndicate, moreover, while maintaining a high price at home during a slump, pushes its sales abroad by very considerable concessions of price, which again work to the advantage of the foreign manufacturer. (p. 97). A strong appeal was made to the Government to take the lead in a reduction in the price of coal; the private mines would then be compelled immediately to follow its example. Yet the Government refrained from any change, though the above appeal was only one among many." (p. 98)."'

## GERMANY.

Area, 208,740 square miles. Population in 1908, 63 $\frac{1}{4}$  millions.

## GERMANY—Foreign Trade.

The following table gives values of Germany's total foreign trade since 1880, the first year for which her trade returns were published. The imports are for home consumption, and the exports are those of German produce. The values are given in millions of pounds.

IMPORTS.				EXPORTS.				
Food, etc.	Raw Materials.	Manufac- tures.	Total.	Average.	Food, etc.	Raw Materials.	Manufac- tures.	Total.
Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £		Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £
108·9	42·8	151·7	1880·4		61·5	91·3	152·8	
116·7	43·2	159·9	1885·9		53·0	98·0	151·0	
154·9	44·0	198·9	1890·4		54·0	98·5	152·5	
68·2	88·8	45·6	202·6	1895	20·4	35·5	107·2	163·1
72·9	92·7	46·2	211·8	1896	22·2	38·0	113·0	173·2
79·4	103·3	47·4	230·1	1897	25·4	40·1	113·2	178·7
89·4	110·5	49·9	249·8	1898	24·8	42·1	117·8	184·7
85·0	128·2	56·4	269·6	1899	23·6	50·0	133·2	206·8
86·7	137·8	59·0	283·5	1900	25·5	54·6	146·6	226·7
93·3	120·9	52·3	266·5	1901	22·2	53·4	142·1	217·9
96·8	125·9	54·2	276·9	1902	21·0	57·1	151·9	230·0
96·0	139·8	59·3	295·1	1903	25·1	60·2	161·3	246·6
96·2	156·7	60·0	312·9	1904	25·8	61·8	169·2	256·8
115·2	170·0	65·2	350·5	1905	24·9	68·9	188·0	281·8
113·8	198·3	82·3	394·4	1906	28·0	68·3	216·4	312·7
127·2	214·7	88·1	430·0	1907	26·6	73·8	236·4	336·8
118·2	183·0	75·6	376·8	1908	31·0	70·5	213·1	314·6

## Germany—Trade with United Kingdom.

(See under **Re-exports.**)

The objection which vitiates the value of our pre-1904 figures of Anglo-French trade applies even more forcibly to those of Anglo-German trade. An enormous amount of *consignments* from Germany to this country pass through Dutch and Belgian ports; how much we are only able to estimate since 1904. In that year, whereas our *imports* from Germany only amounted to £33,944,000, our *consignments* from Germany amounted to £49,512,000. In other words, £15½ millions worth of German goods reached this country via non-German ports. It is useless, therefore, to look for an accurate indication of the values of German goods entering this country before 1904; but this does not apply to British exports to Germany, the values of which agree pretty closely with those of British consignments to Germany. Our *exports* to Germany since 1855 have been as follows :—

	£mil.		£mil.
1855-59	... ... 12	1880-84	... ... 18
1860-64	... ... 13	1885-89	... ... 16
1865-69	... ... 20	1890-94	... ... 18
1870-74	... ... 26	1895-99	... ... 23
1875-79	... ... 23	1900-04	... ... 24·6

Since 1904 the values in detail of our imports consigned from Germany and our exports consigned thereto are as follows :—

### IMPORTS (CONSIGNMENTS).

		1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Food, etc.	.. .. ..	11,030	11,230	12,097	12,575	13,012
Raw materials	.. .. ..	3,547	3,896	4,712	5,457	4,781
Manufactures	.. .. ..	34,318	38,057	38,532	38,587	36,649
Miscellaneous	.. .. ..	617	656	567	539	518
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>.. .. ..</b>	<b>49,512</b>	<b>53,839</b>	<b>55,908</b>	<b>57,158</b>	<b>54,960</b>

### EXPORTS (CONSIGNMENTS).

		1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Food, etc.	.. .. ..	2,080	2,946	2,942	3,426	3,042
Raw materials	.. .. ..	3,893	4,458	5,072	7,421	6,839
Manufactures	.. .. ..	18,585	21,635	24,865	29,731	22,766
Miscellaneous	.. .. ..	543	663	678	780	751
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>.. .. ..</b>	<b>25,101</b>	<b>29,702</b>	<b>33,557</b>	<b>41,358</b>	<b>33,398</b>

The total "excess of imports" into this country from Germany, when our re-exports are taken into account, amounted to but £9, £7 and £5 millions in each of the past three years respectively. As our investments in that country are very meagre, the goods received by way of interest are of small value; and the main reason why we import on balance more commodities from Germany than we send to her is probably to be found in the fact that Germany's "excess of imports" from our Empire abroad is very considerable, and that at any rate a part of it is liquidated by her exports of goods to us, her debit account with our Colonies being settled by "roundabout" trade.

### GLASS. (See p. 12.)

#### IMPORTS.

	Window. £000	Plate. £000	Bottles. £000	Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, and other manufactures of glass. £000	Total. £000
1895	... 533	... 291	... 362	... 1,289	... 2,475
1897	... 606	... 468	... 402	... 1,530	... 3,006
1899	... 673	... 391	... 528	... 1,618	... 3,210
1900	... 650	... 355	... 675	... 1,520	... 3,290
1901	... 692	... 517	... 737	... 1,584	... 3,530
1902	... 797	... 493	... 790	... 1,617	... 3,697
1903	... 767	... 526	... 789	... 1,645	... 3,727
1904	... 622	... 564	... 662	... 1,531	... 3,379
1905	... 726	... 517	... 639	... 1,517	... 3,399
1906	... 778	... 509	... 615	... 1,367	... 3,269
1907	... 731	... 501	... 619	... 1,198	... 3,049
1908	... 693	... 412	... 590	... 1,074	... 2,769

#### BRITISH EXPORTS.

	Plate. £000	Flint. £000	Bottles. £000	Other Manufactures. £000	Total. £000
1895	... 80	... 214	... 325	... 171	... 790
1897	... 88	... 220	... 381	... 182	... 871
1899	... 100	... 216	... 378	... 222	... 916
1900	... 135	... 245	... 421	... 232	... 1,033
1901	... 115	... 251	... 439	... 252	... 1,057
1902	... 108	... 248	... 471	... 270	... 1,097
1903	... 115	... 260	... 444	... 284	... 1,103
1904	... 123	... 183	... 423	... 280	... 1,009
1905	... 166	... 191	... 425	... 325	... 1,107
1906	... 206	... 209	... 486	... 376	... 1,277
1907	... 253	... 216	... 554	... 377	... 1,400
1908	... 274	... 197	... 501	... 383	... 1,355

### GLOVES, Leather. (See under Leather.)

## GOLD AND SILVER—Imports and Exports.

The values of our Imports and Exports of Gold and Silver Bullion and Specie are available since 1858, since which year they have been as follows. (Cd. 4,954, pp. 20-1) :—

Average.		Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imp'ts (+) or Exports (-).	
				Mil. £	Mil. £
1858-64	..	28·2	25·3	..	(+) 2·9
1865-69	..	25·1	17·5	..	(+) 7·6
1870-74	..	32·2	26·9	..	(+) 5·3
1875-79	..	32·8	30·4	..	(+) 2·4
1880-84	..	18·8	20·1	..	(-) 1·3
1885-89	..	21·9	21·5	..	(+) 0·4
1890-94	..	36·2	30·4	..	(+) 5·8
1895-99	..	47·6	42·8	..	(+) 4·8
1900	..	39·5	32·0	..	(+) 7·5
1901	..	32·2	26·0	..	(+) 6·2
1902	..	31·4	26·1	..	(+) 5·3
1903	..	39·0	39·2	..	(-) 0·2
1904	..	45·6	46·3	..	(-) 0·7
1905	..	51·5	45·4	..	(+) 6·1
1906	..	63·3	61·5	..	(+) 1·8
1907	..	73·0	67·8	..	(+) 5·2
1908	..	56·5	63·2	..	(-) 6·7

These figures show that our stock of the precious metals is continually increasing, and they utterly confute the Tariff Reform claim that our “ excess of imports ” is paid for in gold and silver.

## GRAIN. (See Wheat, and p. 9.)

## GRANITE.

The artificially manufactured outcry against the use of Norwegian granite in this country would lead one to suppose that our imports of such stone were increasing at an enormous rate. This is quite a mistake. Here are the figures in tons of Norwegian stone imported by us in recent years :—

	Tons.		Tons.
1904	181,700	1907	108,497
1905	159,932	1908	79,407
1906	166,221		

These figures show that in 1908 we imported 102,293 tons less of this stone than in 1904, the values of such imports having fallen from £240,339 in 1904 to £110,721 in 1908.

## HARDWARE.

	*Re-			*Re-		
	*Imports	exports.	‡Exports.	*Imports	exports.	‡Exports.
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000
1899	...	—	...	1,536	1904	... 570
1900	...	—	...	1,500	1905	... 470
1901	...	—	...	1,449	1906	... 460
1902	...	—	...	1,518	1907	... 469
1903	...	—	...	1,595	1908	... 430

\* Not enumerated previous to 1904. Re-exports include cutlery.

‡ Not enumerated previous to 1899.

## HARNESS. (*See under Leather.*)

## HIDES. (*See p. 10.*)

## HATS, Felt (including Bonnets).

	*Re-			*Re-		
	*Imports	exports	Exports.	*Imports	exports	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000
1895	...	—	...	670	1903	... —
1897	...	—	...	638	1904	... —
1899	...	—	...	695	1905	... 64
1900	...	—	...	788	1906	... 63
1901	...	—	...	813	1907	... 68
1902	...	—	...	742	1908	... 56

\* Not enumerated prior to 1905.

† Trimmed hats and bonnets were not included prior to 1905.

## Hats, Straw (including Bonnets).

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports.	exports.	Exports.	Imports.	exports.	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000
1895	...	131	...	10	...	397
1897	...	90	...	8	...	386
1899	...	72	...	7	...	390
1900	...	98	...	12	...	406
1901	...	126	...	17	...	400
1902	...	255	...	25	...	477

\* Trimmed hats and bonnets were not included prior to 1905.

In 1904 Mr. Chamberlain, at Luton, announced the end of the straw hat trade. This table shows a great diminution in imports and a well-maintained export trade, though the home market is undoubtedly the more important to the Luton industry.

## HOLLAND.

Area, 12,770 square miles. Population, 5,600,000.

Under Holland's revenue tariff, raw materials and necessaries

are imported free of duty, semi-manufactured goods are subject to duties of 2 or 3 per cent., and manufactures of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*. Recently the Dutch Government resolved to increase these duties by 30 per cent., but, owing to the opposition of the manufacturing interests, the proposal has been dropped. Agriculture has developed enormously under her Free Trade policy, dairy farming and market gardening being particularly prosperous.

The following details of her trade with this country are given with the qualification that our "imports" from Holland include a considerable proportion of German goods in transit via Dutch ports :—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.
1870-74	14	14	1902	34.84	8.4
1875-79	19	11	1903	34.97	8.7
1880-84	25	9	1904	34.69	8.2
1885-89	26	9	1905	35.48	9.68
1890-94	28	9	1906	36.65	11.61
1895-99	29	9	1907	36.83	13.98
1900	31.38	10.9	1908	36.35	11.52
1901	32.87	9.1			

## HOPS.

Average.	British Production. 000 cwts.	British Acreage. 000 acres.	Imports. 000 cwts.	£000
1881-5	*—	68	224	1,473
1886-90	474	61	181	653
1891-95	490	58	199	900
1896-1900	446	51	199	750
1901-05	472	48	168	827
1906	246	47	233	852
1907	374	45	202	765
1908	471	39	280	767

\* No return before 1885.

Note that in 1881-5, when the acreage under British hops was far higher than now, the value of our imported hops was nearly twice as great as now. Our export values are small, being £36,000 in 1908; but such exports are met abroad by very high tariffs, Australia and New Zealand imposing a duty of 6d. per lb. on British hops. The big imports last year were due to a "dump" of American hops by a New York syndicate, which speculated on the early imposition of an import duty in this country, and is speculating still! Under the American tariff of 1909 the duty on hops has been increased to 74s. 8d. per cwt.; but the import of hops into the United States increased greatly in recent years in spite of a duty of 56s. per cwt.

**HORSES.** (*See Agriculture.*)**HOSIERY.**

Year.	IMPORTS.			RE-EXPORTS.		
	Cotton Hosiery. £000	Woollen *Hosiery. £000		Cotton Hosiery. £000	Woollen *Hosiery. £000	
1895 ...	388	...	—	...	42	...
1897 ...	326	...	—	...	43	...
1898 ...	410	...	—	...	43	...
1899 ...	371	...	—	...	39	...
1900 ...	620	...	—	...	44	...
1901 ...	708	...	—	...	59	...
1902 ...	833	...	—	...	58	...
1903 ...	783	...	—	...	44	...
1904 ...	734	...	307	...	61	...
1905 ...	931	...	527	...	60	...
1906 ...	1,088	...	397	...	84	...
1907 ...	1,294	...	397	...	88	...
1908 ...	1,444	...	403	...	110	...

\* Not enumerated prior to 1904.

**EXPORTS.**

Year.	Cotton Stockings & Socks. £000	Cotton Hosiery Other sorts. £000	Woollen Hosiery. £000	Total. £000
1895 ...	220	196	833	1,249
1897 ...	169	189	826	1,184
1898 ...	175	160	784	1,119
1899 ...	176	147	909	1,232
1900 ...	229	165	899	1,293
1901 ...	223	197	893	1,313
1902 ...	199	259	953	1,411
1903 ...	194	249	966	1,409
1904 ...	211	252	1,032	1,495
1905 ...	157	361	1,191	1,709
1906 ...	196	313	1,269	1,778
1907 ...	201	321	1,486	2,008
1908 ...	195	229	1,277	1,701

## Hosiery Industry—Employment.

There were 35,198 workers in all engaged in the British hosiery industry in 1895, and 36,336 in 1904. The number in 1907 was 39,971, showing a steady increase, including 4,169 in the adult class.

## HOUSE FRAMES, FITTINGS, &c.

The figures of our imports under this heading, which include the "foreign doors" about which so many exaggerated statements have been made, were first returned in 1903. The re-exports are negligible, as are British exports.

As unemployment amongst carpenters and joiners has increased, the amount of imported woodwork for use in building has decreased. Here are the figures:—

	Percentage of Unemployment.	Imports. £		Percentage of Unemployment.	Imports. £
1903	... 4·4 ...	469,227	1906	... 6·9 ...	272,949
1904	... 7·3 ...	332,627	1907	... 7·3 ...	224,596
1905	... 8·0 ...	317,288	1908	... 11·6 ...	209,632

## IMPORT DUTIES ON CERTAIN FOODS.

### British.

Tea, 5d. per lb.; Cocoa, raw, 1d. per lb; husks, 2s. per cwt.; Cocoa or Chocolate, prepared, 2d. per lb.; Coffee, raw, 14s. per cwt.; roasted or ground, 2d. per lb.; Sugar, 10d. to 1s. 10d. per cwt., according to polarisation; Confectionery of Chocolate, 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb.; other, 10d. to 2s. 6d. per cwt.; Jams, &c., 1s. 4d. per cwt.

### French.

Butter, 8s. 1½d. per cwt.; Margarine, 10s. 2d. per cwt.; Cheese, 4s. 10½d. to 6s. 1¼d. per cwt.; Raw Cocoa (per cwt.), 42s. 3d. to 50s. 5d.; ground, 61s. to 62s. 5d.; Coffee, raw, 55s. 3d. to 121s. 11d. per cwt.; roasted or ground, 162s. 7d. to 164s. per cwt.; Chocolate (per cwt.), 40s. 10d. to 61s. ; Confectionery (per cwt.) ; biscuits, 12s. 5d.; preserves, 3s. 3d. to 6s. 8½d.; sweetmeats, &c., 13s. 5d.; Fish, varying from 2s. to 19s. 6d. per cwt.; Hops, 12s. 2½d. per cwt.; Live animals for Food, £8s. 1½d. to 10s. 2d.

per cwt.; Pork, fresh, 10s. 2d.; Beef and Mutton, 14s. 2½d. per cwt.; Bacon, Hams, and other Salt Meats, 12s. 2½d. per cwt.; Mustard, 1s. 5½d. (raw) to 2s. 0½d. (prepared) per cwt.; Rice, 1s. 3d. to 3s. 3d. per cwt.; Salt, 1s. to 1s. 4d.; *plus* Excise duty of 4s. per cwt.; Raw Sugar, 2s. 3d. import duty and 10s. 2d. consumption duty per cwt.; Refined Sugar, consumption and import duty, 13s. 4d. per cwt.; Tea, 9d. to 11½d. per lb.; Wheat, 2s. 10¼d. per cwt.; Wheat Flour, 4s. 5d. to 6s. 6d. per cwt.

## German.

Butter and Margarine, 10s. per cwt.; Cheese, 7s. 6d. to 15s. per cwt.; Cocoa, raw, 10s. per cwt.; roasted, unshelled, 17s. 6d.; roasted, ground, 32s. 6d.; Chocolate, 25s.; Coffee, raw, 20s. per cwt.; roasted or ground, 30s.; Confectionery: Sweetmeats and Fruits, 20s. per cwt.; Cakes, Biscuits, and Jams, 30s.; Fish: Herrings, 2s. 11½d. per barrel; other Fish, varying from 5s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.; Hops, 10s. per cwt.; Live Animals for Food: Cattle, 4s., and pigs, 4s. 6d. per cwt.; Fresh Meat, 13s. 6d. to (for frozen), 17s. 6d. per cwt.; Bacon, 18s.; Hams, 17s. 6d. per cwt.; other Preserved Meat, 30s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.; Mustard, raw, 1s.; prepared, 30s. per cwt.; Rice, 2s. per cwt.; Salt, 6s. 5d. per cwt.; Sugar, refined, 9s. 4¾d.; unrefined, 9s. 2½d.; Syrup, 20s. per cwt.; Tea, 1½d. per lb.; Wheat, 2s. 9d. per cwt.; Wheat Meal, 5s. 1½d. per cwt.

(The tea and coffee duties have been considerably increased under Finance Bill of 1909, but it is difficult to ascertain exactly how much. The above are duties current in 1908.)

## United States. (1909 Tariff.)

Butter and Margarine, 28s. per cwt.; *plus* internal tax of 70s. per cwt.; Cheese, 28s. per cwt., *plus* internal tax (on filled cheese), 37s. 4d. per cwt.; Cocoa, raw, per cwt., free; powder, 23s. 4d.; Chocolate, according to value, from 11s. 8d. to 50 per cent. *ad val.*; Coffee, free; Confectionery, varying from 9s. 4d. per cwt. to 50 per cent. *ad val.*; Fish, varying from 1s. 2d. per cwt. (fresh water fish) to 40 per cent. *ad val.*; Hops, 74s. 8d. per cwt.; Live Animals for Food, 6s. 3d. to 15s. 7d. each; Fresh Meat, 7s. per cwt.; Bacon and Hams, 18s. 8d. per cwt.; other Salt Meat, 25 per cent.; Mustard, not ground, free; prepared, 46s. 8d. per cwt.; Rice, 3s. 6d. to 9s. 4d. per cwt.; Salt, 4½d. to 6¾d. per cwt.; Sugar, 4s. 5d. to 18s. 8d. per cwt.; Tea, free; Wheat, 1s. 11d. per cwt.; Wheat Flour, 25 per cent. *ad val.*

## INCOME TAX.

Table showing the Rates in the £ of the Income Tax charged in each year since 1882; the Net Amounts produced for each Penny of Tax, and the Produce of the Tax. (Cd. 4,954, p. 139.)

Year.	Government.	Rate in the £	Net Amount per Penny of Tax.	Produce.
1882	L.	5d.	£000 1,915	£000 9,578
1883	L.	6½d.	1,962	12,759
1884	L.	5d.	2,016	10,084
1885	L.	6d.	2,002	12,013
1886	L.	8d.	1,980	15,843
1887	L.	8d.	1,965	15,724
1888	C.	7d.	1,992	13,949
1889	C.	6d.	2,045	12,274
1890	C.	6d.	2,141	12,849
1891	C.	6d.	2,215	13,295
1892	C.	6d.	2,238	13,429
1893	C.	6d.	2,239	13,439
1894	L.	7d.	2,191	15,337
1895	L.	8d.	1,982	15,856
1896	L.	8d.	2,033	16,265
1897	C.	8d.	2,098	16,788
1898	C.	8d.	2,188	17,507
1899	C.	8d.	2,284	18,274
1900	C.	8d.	2,353	18,829
1901	C.	1s.	2,475	29,705
1902	C.	1s. 2d.	2,531	35,440
1903	C.	1s. 3d.	2,535	38,038
1904	C.	11d.	2,562	28,188
1905	C.	1s.	2,580	30,966
1906	C.	1s.	2,633	31,601
1907	L.	1s.	2,666	32,002
1908	L.	1s.	2,698	*32,380
1909	L.	1s.	2,833	*34,000

\* Figures for 1908-9 are incomplete.

Between 1880 and 1894 tax was collected on incomes exceeding £149, with abatement of £120 on incomes under £400. Between 1895 and 1898 tax was imposed on incomes of £160 a year upwards, with abatement of £160 on incomes under £400, and of £100 on incomes between £400 and £500. Since 1899 tax is collected on incomes of £160 and upwards, with abatements on a sliding scale for incomes under £700. In 1908-9 9d. in the £ was charged on *earned* income when total income did not exceed £2,000.

Income Tax—Growth of Incomes.

(Cd. 4,954, p. 137.)

The following table gives the gross amount of the annual value of Property and Profits assessed to Income Tax since 1892 under Schedules :—

- A. From ownership of Houses, Lands, &c.
- B. From Occupation of Lands.
- C. From Government Securities at home and abroad.
- D. From Businesses, Professions, Employments, &c.
- E. Salaries of Government, Municipal, and Company Officials.

	A Mil. £	B Mil. £	C Mil. £	D Mil. £	E Mil. £	Total. Mil. £
1893 ..	203	58	38	367	52	718
1894 ..	207	56	39	357	52	711
1895 ..	208	56	38	341	51	694
1896 ..	211	55	38	357	53	714
1897 ..	214	55	39	377	57	742
1898 ..	216	55	39	401	60	771
1899 ..	224	53	39	417	65	798
1900 ..	229	53	39	436	70	827
1901 ..	233	53	41	466	75	868
1902 ..	238	53	44	488	79	902
1903 ..	242	53	46	492	82	915
1904 ..	252	53	45	502	86	938
1905 ..	255	52	46	505	89	947
1906 ..	259	52	47	509	93	960
1907 ..	264	52	47	519	97	979
1908* ..	265	52	48	519	98	982

\* Figures for 1908 are incomplete.

INDIA—BRITISH.

Area, 1,098,000 square miles. Population in 1907, 250 millions.

The Indian tariff is for revenue purposes only, duties up to 5 per cent. *ad. valorem* being imposed on certain goods.

From	IMPORTS.				
	1895 £mil.	1900 £mil.	1901 £mil.	1902 £mil.	1903 £mil.
United Kingdom ...	26·0	32·5	35·0	34·8	36·7
British Possessions	3·6	5·5	5·0	5·0	5·4
Foreign Countries ...	8·7	12·9	14·3	12·7	14·4
Total ...	38·3	50·9	54·3	52·5	56·5

India—British (Continued).

## EXPORTS.

To									
United Kingdom ...	19·3	...	20·9	...	20·3	...	21·2	...	27·1
British Possessions ...	11·7	...	16·7	...	17·8	...	18·0	...	19·6
Foreign Countries ...	29·5	...	31·8	...	42·7	...	44·7	...	53·1
Total ...	60·5	...	69·4	...	80·8	...	83·9	...	99·8

The following is a detailed analysis of India's Foreign Trade with the United Kingdom and all foreign countries in recent years.

India.—Trade.

## IMPORTS FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

Years.	Food, &c. £000	Raw Materials. £000	Manu- factures. £000	Total Merchandise. £000	Bullion & Specie. £000
1904 ...	1,974	1,084	43,818	46,876	12,453
1905 ...	2,154	1,203	47,878	51,235	13,515
1906 ...	2,102	1,028	50,617	53,747	19,916
1907 ...	2,148	1,209	58,511	61,868	15,906

## IMPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	4,078	3,322	9,626	17,026	2,410
1905 ...	4,822	2,904	10,101	17,827	1,768
1906 ...	5,651	2,637	10,222	18,510	1,760
1907 ...	6,146	3,283	13,049	22,478	4,324

## EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	15,051	10,212	3,510	28,773	7,935
1905 ...	11,042	11,858	4,231	27,131	8,363
1906 ...	11,041	14,981	5,822	31,844	2,036
1907 ...	12,491	12,202	5,827	30,520	2,204

## EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	13,603	29,578	12,925	56,106	284
1905 ...	10,331	34,087	13,987	58,405	1,492
1906 ...	8,519	38,669	17,018	64,206	841
1907 ...	10,195	38,422	18,829	67,446	317

In 1907 our principal imports from India were: Cotton, £2,331,000; wheat, £7,188,000; jute, £8,055,000; seeds, £4,866,000; tea, £5,755,000.

Our principal exports to India in 1907 were: Cotton goods, £25,699,000; iron goods, £5,843,000; machinery, £5,364,000; woollens, £950,000.

## INDIA RUBBER. (*See Caoutchouc.*)

### INVESTMENTS ABROAD.

Several estimates have recently been made of the capital value of British investments in foreign countries, with quite a remarkable agreement in the resultant figure. One of the most detailed is here given. It will be noticed that about half the total has been sent to assist our Empire abroad to build up its industries, while about half is invested in foreign countries, mostly in "new" countries like South America.

British Investments in British Colonies and Possessions.

	Millions of £.						Millions of £.
India ...	... 470	Japan	...	...	...	...	115
Australasia ...	... 321	Brazil	...	...	...	...	101
Canada ...	... 305	Egypt	...	...	...	...	97
Transvaal and Orange River ...	220	Mexico	...	...	...	...	51
Cape Colony ...	98	Germany, France, Sweden, Norway, Holland, Belgium and Denmark	...	...	...	...	48
Rhodesia and British E. Africa	59	China	...	...	...	...	47
Natal ...	30	Russia	...	...	...	...	45
West Coast of Africa ...	24	Chile	...	...	...	...	42
Straits Settlements, etc.	17	Turkey, Greece and Balkan States	...	...	...	...	39
West Indies ...	22	Italy, Switzerland and Austria	...	...	...	...	26
	<hr/> 1,566	Spain	...	...	...	...	25
	<hr/>	Uruguay	...	...	...	...	25
		Cuba	...	...	...	...	21
		Other foreign countries	...	...	...	...	63

British Investments in Foreign Countries.

	Millions of £.						Millions of £.
United States ...	... 485						1,484
Argentina ...	... 254						<hr/>

Grand total ... £3,050,000,000.

Attention is drawn to the comparatively small amount of British investments in Germany and France, which utterly belie Tariff Reformers' statements about the enormous amounts of capital which they allege are "driven abroad" to those countries. It is safe to assert that far more German capital is invested in Britain than British capital in Germany.

The importance of "capital exports" to those of our industries which specialise for export is immense. In 1907-8 alone, for instance, we invested £51½ millions in railways abroad. It is impossible for anyone who studies the figures to avoid the conviction that these particular "capital exports" are the life blood of those industries devoted to the construction of railway plant and rolling stock. The home demand for such commodities is necessarily limited; it is to the new countries whose development is in its infancy that the manufacturers must look; and being new countries they must, as a rule, borrow instead of buying outright. Cut off our "capital exports" and the industries in this country engaged in supplying railway demands would be so hard hit that they could

legitimately head the list of the really "ruined." We lend to the new countries a large quantity of their plant and rolling stock, and as by this agency the borrowing countries are opened out and their cornfields and pastures and mines brought nearer to the sea, we reap the reward in cheap grain and meat, and raw materials for our industries. Besides the large quantity of such goods which we receive in interest for the capital borrowed from us, the development which the proper use of that capital in the borrowing country ensures, gives it the power of exchanging its surplus products for our manufactures. In every way, therefore, our investments abroad work to our advantage, and to condemn them is shortsighted and unsound.

The total amount of Germany's investments abroad is roughly estimated at about £1,500 millions, or about the same amount as we have invested in foreign countries. These investments are of comparatively recent growth, and are one of the factors which have helped to increase Germany's export trade. On the other hand, Professor Arndt, of Frankfurt, is of opinion that little more than £100 millions of Foreign capital is invested in Germany.

There are no available details of the Foreign investments of any other countries.

### Investments, Dividends from.

Income tax received in the United Kingdom on declared dividends from foreign investments reached the following amounts in recent years :—

	£		£
1880-1 .....	29,951,000	1902-3 .....	63,829,000
1886-7 .....	44,508,000	1903-4 .....	65,865,000
1890-1 .....	55,489,000	1904-5 .....	66,062,000
1896-7 .....	56,319,000	1905-6 .....	73,899,000
1900-1 .....	60,331,000	1906-7 .....	79,560,000
1901-2 .....	62,559,000	1907-8 .....	85,116,000

The above figures, however, by no means represent the total income received from investments abroad. They exclude a large amount which cannot be identified, such as profits from trams, breweries, plantations, mines, shipping, banks, insurance companies, mercantile houses, and many other investments in concerns abroad which have British owners or are branches of businesses situated in this country, and which have been financed with British money. The amount of the income received from these sources can only be guessed, but it can hardly be less than thirty or forty millions, and a minimum annual income of £120 millions from our spare capital invested abroad is probably not too high an estimate. Those who regard our excess of imports as an unhealthy sign, and urge it as a proof that we are "living on our capital" or "bleeding to death," ignore this huge item in the balance sheet of our foreign trade. No foreign country, with the exception of Germany, has

any considerable income from abroad ; and the German figure though very respectable, is far behind ours.

In Germany, Dr. Arndt, of Frankfurt, has estimated that in 1905 the national income derived from investments abroad was about £80 millions.

## Investments, Foreign, in United Kingdom.

There are no statistics from which it is possible to form even the haziest estimate of the actual amount of foreign capital invested in this country. That they are enormous and increasing is patent to every observer of our industrial development. Indeed it is the open complaint of many of our Tariff Reformers that so much of the share capital of many British companies is held by foreigners. A glance at a directory in any of our great manufacturing centres reveals the presence of numerous branch factories of American, French or German firms. The new Patents Act is further increasing their number ; and the protective system in Germany is admittedly driving her manufacturers in some instances to plant works in this country.

## Investments Abroad—Recent.

The Tariff Reform statement that Free Trade is " driving British capital abroad " has done duty on many a platform recently. The truth of the matter was excellently set forth in the *Times* Commercial Supplement of November 26th, 1909, in the following words :—

" There is this question of the undoubted unpopularity of home investments, on which politicians very naturally base inferences adverse to the party in power, saying that it is frightening capital out of the country, depreciating British credit, and generally doing everything that a really sensible and patriotic party would use its utmost endeavours to avoid. The unpopularity of home investments is a stubborn fact, abundantly testified in private by scores of stock-brokers. . . . But how far is it due to the facts of the case and how far to the picturesque utterances of the politicians ? When Mr. Chamberlain determined to alter the fiscal system of these islands, he thereby found it necessary to maintain that British industries were dying ; that if our present system is maintained, disaster and destruction must be the ultimate fate of the Empire. The tune that he performed so ably has been repeated with variations by the whole host of his lieutenants and followers, and a chorus of Cassandras has sung our approaching doom in crashing and crushing harmony. The investing classes, being largely in sympathy with the party which has adopted Tariff Reform, takes all that it hears about the inevitable doom of the country as literally correct, naturally begins to prefer to put some of its money abroad, and so one of the causes of the comparative unpopularity of home investments arises from the necessity with which one of the great parties is faced, of proving that we are on the road to irretrievable ruin."

## IRELAND—EXTERNAL TRADE.

The figures of Ireland's external trade, which include the values of all goods entering and leaving Irish ports whether in trade with Great Britain or with foreign countries, are available since 1904 only.

### IMPORTS.

	Food, drink & tobacco.	Raw Materials.	Manufacturers.	Total.
	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904	20,747	8,915	24,548	54,210
1905	21,017	8,320	26,423	55,760
1906	21,223	8,388	27,831	57,442
1907	22,821	9,659	29,101	61,581
1908	22,625	9,019	27,364	59,008

### EXPORTS.

1904	31,319	3,633	15,494	50,446
1905	31,659	3,480	17,126	52,265
1906	33,391	3,536	19,990	56,917
1907	35,224	4,125	20,778	60,127
1908	35,273	4,064	19,032	58,369

The principal items in Ireland's Exports in 1908 were textiles (especially of linen) £13½ millions: ships and machinery £3¾ millions: live stock, £15 millions: meats, £3½ millions: dairy produce, £8 millions; drinks, alcoholic and mineral, £4½ millions. The export figures include about £3 millions worth of re-exports.

## Ireland and Tariff Reform.

Though Irishmen always plead guilty to being "instinctively protectionist," their interest in and knowledge of the Tariff Reform movement are by no means acute. The Nationalist Party have, of course, visions of a "self-supporting" Ireland, with her own Customs Houses, collecting heavy duties on her imports and particularly on those from the sister Isle, her greatest competitor. The only sort of "Tariff Reform" in which Irishmen as a body could take any interest would consist in the protection of agriculture, and of that alone. They have little or no use for the "Tariff Reform" of Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Wyndham and Mr. Hewins as they understand it. Its "small duties" which its sponsors find it politic to assure us *ad nauseam* on our platform in this country, "will not increase the price of food," have no attraction for agricultural Ireland, which looks to Great Britain for its best market and always finds it there. Again as Ireland always imports far more manufactured goods than she can export, and is very likely to continue to do so, the prospect of an increase in the cost

of such goods is not tempting. For these reasons "Tariff Reform" as presented to us on this side of the channel has failed to rouse any enthusiasm on the other ; and even Lord Dunraven's vision of an Ireland growing rich by exporting all her surplus produce and importing *nothing but gold* in payment for it, has failed to catch the popular imagination.

The Tariff Reformers, generally speaking, have avoided appealing for support in Ireland. They have difficulties enough in satisfying the farmer on this side that he is going to benefit by increased prices, while in the next parish they are telling the worker that the price of his food will not be raised, without further involving themselves in contradictions by having to fit their arguments to the economic surroundings in which they would find themselves in an Irish campaign.

**IRON** and **STEEL**—Exports of. (*Excluding  
Machinery, which see.*)

(These figures are taken from Cd. 4594 of 1909, page 79.)

From		U.K.		France.		Germany.		U.S.A.
		£mil.		£mil.		£mil.		£mil.
1890-94	...	23.6	...	2.0	...	11.2	...	2.1
1895-99	...	25.2	...	2.6	...	15.3	...	5.5
1900	...	35.8	...	3.1	...	19.2	...	12.7
1901	...	29.2	...	3.2	...	21.1	...	13.1
1902	...	33.3	...	4.3	...	24.9	...	9.6
1903	...	35.2	...	4.2	...	26.1	...	8.3
1904	...	33.1	...	4.2	...	22.8	...	10.0
1905	...	37.2	..	5.1	...	24.6	...	13.3
1906	...	46.2	...	4.8	...	27.2	...	15.5
1907	...	53.5	...	5.8	...	30.1	...	16.6
1908	...	43.7	...	5.5	...	27.5	...	17.1

## Iron and Steel and Manufactures — British Exports.

	Iron, Pig and Puddled.	Iron Bars, Angles, Bolts, &c.	Wrought Iron Tubes and Pipes
	£000	£000	£000
1895	2,077	1,189	687
1897	2,889	1,499	976
1899	4,785	1,883	1,123
1900	5,994	2,074	1,332
1901	2,631	1,511	1,005
1902	3,571	1,766	1,010
1903	3,360	1,917	1,867
1904	2,369	1,604	1,866
1905	3,097	2,082	1,486
1906	5,825	2,704	1,847
1907	7,206	3,155	2,148
1908	4,109	2,148	2,195

British Exports (Continued).

			Rails.	Nails, Screws, &c.	Wire.
			£000	£000	£000
1895	...	...	1,433	306	711
1897	...	...	2,672	367	868
1899	...	...	2,311	393	886
1900	...	...	2,367	450	904
1901	...	...	2,736	392	968
1902	...	...	3,173	389	1,043
1903	...	...	3,213	415	*1,170
1904	...	...	2,544	427	1,195
1905	...	...	2,732	466	1,570
1906	...	...	2,591	516	1,964
1907	...	...	2,806	556	2,189
1908	...	...	2,769	473	1,880

\* Including telegraph wire since 1903.

		Black Plates.	Galvanised Plates.	Tinned Plates.
		£000	£000	£000
1895	...	338	2,251	4,239
1897	...	570	2,562	3,039
1899	...	830	3,121	3,169
1900	...	712	3,788	3,977
1901	...	535	3,193	3,704
1902	...	600	4,133	4,338
1903	...	651	4,384	3,959
1904	...	602	4,488	4,596
1905	...	654	4,825	4,567
1906	...	655	5,897	4,937
1907	...	754	6,883	5,917
1908	...	619	5,426	5,480

Imports.

		Iron Ore.	Iron, Pig and Puddled.	Steel Bars, &c.
		Tons 000	£000	£000
1895	...	4,466	431	95
1897	...	5,989	518	276
1899	...	7,086	621	434
1900	...	6,329	805	1,218
1901	...	5,593	792	1,106
1902	...	6,479	798	1,415
1903	...	6,331	577	1,308
1904	...	6,120	561	2,268
1905	...	7,368	591	2,615
1906	...	7,859	494	2,221
1907	...	7,669	558	1,748
1908	...	6,082	371	2,742

## Production. (Cd. 4,594 of 1909.)

Production of pig-iron in the United Kingdom, and in Germany, France, and the United States (millions tons) :—

	U.K.	Germany.	France.	U.S.A.
1890-99	...   ...   7·9	...   5·7	...   2·1	...   9·3
1900	...   ...   9·0	...   8·4	...   2·7	...   13·8
1901	...   ...   7·9	...   7·7	...   2·4	...   15·9
1902	...   ...   8·7	...   8·4	...   2·4	...   17·8
1903	...   ...   8·9	...   9·9	...   2·8	...   18·0
1904	...   ...   8·7	...   9·9	...   2·9	...   16·5
1905	...   ...   9·6	...   10·7	...   3·0	...   23·0
1906	...   ...   10·2	...   12·1	...   3·3	...   25·3
1907	...   ...   10·1	...   12·7	...   3·5	...   25·8
1908	...   ...   9·1	...   11·6	...   3·3	...   15·9

## Volume of Trade.

The weight of our imports and exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof is here given in thousands of tons :—

	Imports. Tons 000	Exports. Tons 000		Imports. Tons 000	Exports. Tons 000
1895	...   406	...   2,738	1903	...   1,304	...   3,565
1897	...   516	...   3,599	1904	...   1,292	...   3,263
1899	...   645	...   3,601	1905	...   1,356	...   3,721
1900	...   800	...   3,447	1906	...   1,216	...   4,682
1901	...   924	...   2,813	1907	...   935	...   5,152
1902	...   1,131	...   3,474	1908	...   1,119	...   4,096

## ITALY.

Area, 110,623 square miles. Population, 33½ millions.

Italy is a highly protected country, having heavy duties both on agricultural and manufactured imports. One-third of her exports, however, consist of raw silk, which is not protected. The cotton and woollen industries, though highly protected, have made little progress. Tariff Reformers never tell us to "Look at Italy," for obvious reasons. Wages are exceedingly low, and the cost of living very high.

The following table shows the values of the imports into the United Kingdom from, and exports of British goods to, Italy since 1875, in millions of pounds.

Averages.	Imports from		Exports to		Averages.	Imports from		Exports to	
	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £		Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £
1875-79	..   4	..   6			1902	..   3·58	..   7·4		
1880-84	..   3	..   6			1903	..   3·44	..   7·8		
1885-89	..   3	..   7			1904	..   3·32	..   8·37		
1890-94	..   3	..   6			1905	..   3·32	..   8·89		
1895-99	..   3	..   6			1906	..   3·61	..   11·16		
1900	..   3·42	..   8·8			1907	..   3·85	..   14·13		
1901	..   3·38	..   7·6			1908	..   3·44	..   15·03		

Our imports from Italy chiefly consist of fruit, hides, dye-stuff, oil, and marble and other stones. Our exports thereto in 1908 included coal, £5,850,000; machinery, £1,993,000; metals and metal goods, £1,450,000; ships, £755,000; military stores, £577,000; cotton goods, £500,000; and woollen goods, £524,000. We head the list of countries supplying Italy's imports, Germany, Italy, France, United States, and Austria following in that order.

As a comment on the Tariff Reformers' claims that emigration figures are a good test of prosperity, it may be noticed that emigrants from Italy in recent years were numbered as follows: In 1904, 472,000; in 1905, 746,000; in 1906, 788,000; in 1907, 705,000.

## JAPAN.

Area, 147,500 square miles. Population, 50 millions.

The following table shows the values of British trade with Japan since 1865, in millions of pounds:—

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.
1890-94	...	1	1904	...	2·35
1895-99	...	1	1905	...	4·89
1900	...	1·5	1906	...	9·67
1901	...	1·83	1907	...	12·91
1902	...	1·90	1908	...	12·06
1903	...	2·28			9·90
		4·6			

Our principal imports from Japan in 1908 were copper, £729,000; silk manufactures, £873,000; and straw plait, £216,000. Amongst our exports thereto were cotton goods, £1,901,000; machinery, £2,138,000; metals and metal goods, £2,046,000; and woollen goods, £678,000.

In 1896 Japan's imports amounted to £19½ millions, her exports to £14 millions. Her trade in recent years has been, in millions of pounds:—

	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
Imports	... 37·9	49·9	42·7	50·5	44·5
Exports	... 32·6	32·8	43·3	44·1	38·6

In 1908 one quarter of Japan's imports consisted of British goods, and one-eighth came from British Possessions, £8 millions worth from the United States, and £4½ millions worth from Germany. £12½ millions worth of her exports went to the United States, £6 millions worth to China, and £3½ millions worth to France.

## JEWELLERY.

It is admitted by all qualified to express an opinion that the values of our foreign trade in jewellery as returned by the Board of Trade are absolutely useless as an index of the extent of that

trade. Most of our imports and exports of jewellery are carried either by parcel post or on the person or in the luggage of travellers, and in neither case is it possible even to guess the approximate value. It would serve no useful purpose to set out the recorded values, which can only be a small fraction of the totals.

### JUTE—Raw.

	Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000		Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000
1895 ...	4,358	1,397	1903 ...	3,237	1,150
1897 ...	3,943	1,282	1904 ...	4,198	1,446
1899 ...	3,658	1,288	1905 ...	5,743	1,935
1900 ...	4,134	1,621	1906 ...	8,341	3,058
1901 ...	4,326	1,706	1907 ...	8,165	3,286
1902 ...	5,301	1,630	1908 ...	5,884	1,835

Nearly all our imports come from India, and their high value, representing some 350,000 tons annually, suggests that our jute trade is in by no means a precarious position.

### Jute—Manufactures (other than Yarn).

	Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000	Exports. £000
1895 ...	—	—	2,230
1897 ...	1,629	1,255	2,167
1899 ...	1,506	1,234	1,962
1900 ...	2,151	1,673	1,948
1901 ...	2,209	1,832	2,214
1902 ...	1,995	1,589	1,983
1903 ...	2,367	2,038	2,132
1904 ...	2,208	1,920	2,045
1905 ...	2,073	1,811	2,078
1906 ...	2,290	1,736	2,597
1907 ...	2,759	1,975	2,877
1908 ...	2,358	1,598	2,144

Nearly all our imports (£2,148,000 in 1908) come from India, where the manufacture has been for the most part established with British capital. A great quantity is, however, re-exported. The United States receive nearly half of our total exports, Argentina and Canada also being good customers.

### Jute—Yarn.

	Re-			Re-			
	Imports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000	Imports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000	
1895 ...	70	4	356	1903 ...	84	5	526
1897 ...	61	3	526	1904 ...	76	3	486
1899 ...	46	2	459	1905 ...	109	2	601
1900 ...	89	1	486	1906 ...	114	3	865
1901 ...	107	1	515	1907 ...	108	5	1,232
1902 ...	70	2	530	1908 ...	40	2	713

Nearly all our imports come from France, while Brazil takes nearly half our exports.

## LABOUR, HOURS OF—Comparative Figures.

The following figures, taken from the Board of Trade Reports on the Cost of Living in the three countries named, show the average weekly hours of labour in certain industries :—

Trade.	Average Hours of Labour per week (excluding intervals) at October, 1905			Ratio of Average Hours of Labour to those in England and Wales (taken as 100) in	
	England and Wales.	Germany.	France.	Germany.	France.
<b>BUILDING.</b>					
Bricklayers and Masons	52½	59	64½	112	123
Carpenters .. ..	53	59	64	111	121
Joiners .. ..	53	—	63½	—	120
Plumbers .. ..	53½	58	63	108	118
Plasterers .. ..	53	—	63	—	119
Painters .. ..	53½	59	63	110	118
Labourers .. ..	52½	59	64¾	112	123
<b>ENGINEERING TRADES.</b>					
Fitters .. ..	53	59½	60¼	112	114
Turners .. ..	53	59½	60¼	112	114
Smiths .. ..	53	59½	60½	112	114
Patternmakers .. ..	53	59½	60¼	112	114
Labourers .. ..	53	59½	60¼	112	114
<b>PRINTING TRADES.</b>					
Compositors .. ..	52½	54	59½	103	113
All above occupations (average) .. ..	—	—	—	111	117

It will be seen that the hours of labour of the French artisan were from 13 to 23 per cent. more than the hours of labour usual in this country amongst corresponding classes, the average being 17 per cent., whilst the hours in Germany were from 8 to 12 per cent. more than in England, except in the printing trade, which is a highly organised trade in that country.

## LEAD—Pig and Sheet.

		Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000	Exports.	
				Pig. £000	Manufactures. £000
1895	...	1,654	189	235	258
1897	...	2,033	82	251	288
1899	...	2,884	239	303	333
1900	...	3,522	220	307	382
1901	...	2,844	164	240	345
1902	...	2,585	104	168	289
1903	...	2,627	126	206	278
1904	...	2,880	239	194	302
1905	...	3,043	247	316	296
1906	...	3,520	229	495	338
1907	...	3,936	262	550	369
1908	...	3,224	142	442	325

The great extent of our imports of lead (which mostly come from Spain, Australia, and America), with the small value of our exports, indicates that the industry is mainly concerned with the home market.

### LEATHER—Manufactures. (See p. 12.)

	Leather.		Gloves.		Boots & Shoes.	
	Im-	Re-ex-	Im-	Re-ex-	Im-	Re-ex-
	ports.	ports.	ports.	ports.	ports.	ports.
1895 ...	8,050	... 1,971	... 2,178	... 163	... 399	... 43
1896 ..	7,595	... 1,691	... 2,342	... 199	... 519	... 86
1897 ...	7,647	... 1,804	... 2,145	... 191	... 493	... 57
1898 ...	7,788	... 2,103	... 2,014	... 214	... 511	... 54
1899 ...	8,582	... 1,883	... 2,002	... 216	... 651	... 45
1900 ..	8,793	... 1,507	... 1,744	... 216	... 695	... 49
1901 ...	8,322	... 1,463	... 1,664	... 193	... 939	... 64
1902 ...	8,096	... 1,307	... 1,720	... 175	... 878	... 58
1903 ...	8,090	... 1,325	... 1,654	... 155	... 940	... 59
1904 ...	8,037	... 1,371	... 1,506	... 170	... 774	... 50
1905 ...	8,086	... 1,218	... 1,530	... 181	... 834	... 40
1906 ..	9,642	... 1,659	... 1,599	... 207	... 842	... 46
1907 ...	8,910	... 1,642	... 1,152	... 214	... 769	... 41
1908 ...	9,479	... 1,479	... 1,382	... 192	... 713	... 40

*Machinery Belting* was not separately distinguished prior to 1906, but our imports since that date have been as follows : 1906, £53,000; 1907, £57,000; 1908, £54,000.

### Exports.

	Leather.			
	Tanned	*Manu-	Saddlery	Boots
	Unwrought.	factures.	& Harness.	& Shoes.
1895 ...	... 1,423	... 356	... 475	... 1,581
1896 ..	... 1,280	... 395	... 524	... 1,799
1897 ...	... 1,393	... 409	... 471	... 1,578
1898 ...	... 1,422	... 408	... 445	... 1,494
1899 ...	... 1,483	... 430	... 464	... 1,427
1900 ...	... 1,440	... 480	... 477	... 1,479
1901 ...	... 1,322	... 532	... 585	... 1,653
1902 ...	... 1,337	... 595	... 583	... 1,897
1903 ...	... 1,488	... 768	... 633	... 1,845
1904 ...	... 1,714	... 753	... 477	... 1,582
1905 ...	... 2,113	... 875	... 519	... 1,883
1906 ...	... 2,597	... 479	... 568	... 1,957
1907 ...	... 2,632	... 458	... 578	... 2,041
1908 ...	... 2,211	... 407	... 434	... 2,084

\* Other than saddlery, harness, boots and shoes, but including gloves prior to 1903.

*Machinery Belting* was not separately distinguished prior to 1906, but our exports since that date have been as follows : 1906, £464,000 ; 1907, £537,000 ; 1908, £480,000.

Gloves have been exported since 1903, the first year of the record, to the following values : 1903, £212,000; 1904, £233,000; 1905, £271,000; 1906, £326,000; 1907, £353,000; 1908, £294,000.

## LINEN—Manufactures (other than Yarn).

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895	... 382	... 24	... 5,351	1903	... 797	... 61
1897	... 360	... 27	... 4,771	1904	... 679	... 60
1899	... 415	... 42	... 5,072	1905	... 802	... 50
1900	... 590	... 40	... 5,225	1906	... 910	... 52
1901	... 547	... 42	... 5,019	1907	... 841	... 57
1902	... 683	... 52	... 5,511	1908	... 672	... 50

Imports are mainly of French *lingerie*. Exports in 1908 included piece goods, £3,597,000, and sewing thread, £274,000. The United States are by far our best customer abroad.

## Linen—Yarn.

	Imports.		Exports.		Imports.		Exports.	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895	... 998	... 966	1903	... 1,019	... 836			
1897	... 618	... 976	1904	... 840	... 903			
1899	... 1,012	... 909	1905	... 769	... 928			
1900	... 915	... 934	1906	... 933	... 1,008			
1901	... 764	... 825	1907	... 790	... 1,243			
1902	... 968	... 842	1908	... 703	... 903			

Re-exports never exceeded £5,000 till 1908, when they were valued at £24,000.

## LIVING, COST OF. (See also Food, Prices of, and Wages, Real.)

According to the Board of Trade Reports on the Cost of Living in the countries mentioned, the following table sets forth the percentage of expenditure in each of the three countries on food by families whose income is over 30s. and under 35s. per week :—

	Percentages of the Total Expenditure on Food.		
	United Kingdom.	Germany.	France.
Bread and flour .. ..	15·8	16·1	17·9
Meat and fish .. ..	28·8	31·8	30·3
Fresh milk .. ..	6·1	7·4	4·4
Butter, oils, and fats ..	11·4	14·2	10·8
Potatoes .. ..	4·2	4·6	3·6
Other vegetables and fruit ..	4·0	4·1	7·2
Tea, coffee, and cocoa ..	6·5	4·6	5·0
Sugar .. ..	4·3	2·2	2·7
Other foods (including meals away from home) .. ..	18·9	15·0	18·1
	100	100	100

## Germany.

The following quotations are taken from the Report for 1908 of our Consul-General at Frankfort :—

“ It is worth noticing how the sum total of the prices for the necessities of life were steadily on the increase in 1908, while the slump was spreading and the numbers of unemployed were growing . . . (p. 23). The increase in the retail prices was greatest in the case of milk, butter and eggs; in the case of butter it is particularly noticeable . . . (p. 23). In some places, like Magdeburg and Leipzig, the increase in prices was greatest for the lower qualities—a fact which affects the poorer population more directly (p. 24). The Secretary of State calculated that during the period between 1896-1906 the price of victuals had risen between 22 and 25 per cent. Yet the workman enjoys no larger margin for wants, outside the ‘ necessities ’ of life, because food represents only one such item; other items concern clothing, rent, fuel, light, &c. . . . (pp. 25 and 26). The retail price of cotton goods has been raised by 25 to 40 per cent. within a recent short period . . . (p. 26). In bad times workmen notoriously begin by reducing their expenditure for clothes. The prices for the cheaper classes of boots, such as the workmen buy ready-made, have during the last ten years increased from 5 to 10 per cent. . . . (p. 27). The increase in wages which has taken place within recent years in consequence of the increased cost of living cannot have placed the workman in a better position, if the margin is considered which he is likely to keep over at the end of the year after the necessities of life have been paid for . . . (p. 29). The Report of the Chamber of Commerce of Berlin for the year 1908, states that the surplus remaining to the broad masses of the population after defraying the most necessary expenses, has not increased in 1908 (p. 30). ”

“ To sum up, a variety of reasons have combined to render life in Germany more expensive—but chief among them Protection (p. 33). Wearing apparel has increased because the raw material has increased in the world’s market (e.g., wool), or because the cost of the raw material has been artificially increased in Germany owing to the intensified protection (e.g., leather), and because the increased cost of food of the workers has necessitated a rise in the wages. Fuel has increased under a system of syndication, the syndicates explaining the increased price by the necessity of higher wages. Rents have increased, because building is more expensive, owing to the increased cost of the raw materials and the wages, and because houses are often investments (flats) and the persons so investing their capital need a larger income to meet the increased cost of living (p. 34). ”

## United States.

The average prices of 20 out of the 30 principal articles of food were higher in the United States in 1907 than in any other year of the eighteen-year period 1890 to 1907. The price of every article, except coffee, was higher in 1907 than in 1896. As compared with prices in 1896, those of 1907 had increased as follows in certain articles:—Apples, 40 per cent.; beef, 21 per cent.; butter,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; cheese, 26 per cent.; cent.; chickens, 35 per cent.; corn meal,  $38\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; eggs,  $48\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; fish, 20 per cent.; wheat flour, 27 per cent.; mutton, 32 per cent.; fresh pork, 46 per cent.; bacon, 62 per cent.; potatoes, 57 per cent.; and veal,  $25\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The Tariff Reformer objects that Protection cannot increase the prices of such articles of food, because they are not imported into the United States, but produced at home. But the retailer of food finds that his cost of living is increasing just like other people's, owing to increased rents and prices of manufactured articles which are directly raised by the American tariff, and which are nearly as necessary to him as are articles of food. Between 1896 and 1907 the percental increases in such commodities have been: Clothing 31, fuel and lighting 25, metals and implements 44, building materials 50. He must thus earn higher profits on his sales, which he can only do by raising prices: and in this way Protection is certainly responsible for some of the increase in the price of food.

The above calculations refer to *retail* prices of food. But the United States' Bureau of Labour *Bulletins* show that between 1896 and 1907 the *wholesale* prices of food in the United States rose *over 40 per cent.* The twenty-fourth report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics for the State of New York shows that "for city wage-earners, at least, the increased cost of living is more fairly measured by the recorded advance in the general list of wholesale prices than by the advance in retail prices of food alone. The fact must not be overlooked that increases in retail prices are frequently avoided (and hence concealed in the statistics) by substitution of inferior qualities or by short weight" (p. 29). As an instance confirming this last statement, it may be pointed out that between 1896 and 1907 the retail price of bread in the United States has only risen 4·6 per cent., while that of flour has advanced 27 per cent. "It must be sufficiently clear that with such an advance in the price of flour, the bread consumed by any family, whether made in the house or bought at the bakery, would necessarily cost the family much more than would be indicated by the recorded advance of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in its retail price. The common explanation is that the size rather than the price of the loaf is altered to suit conditions" (p. 30). In many of the States

the pound loaf, which is the usual form in which bread is sold in America, has been reduced to 13 or 14 ounces.

The following extracts from the Report for 1908 of our Consul at Boston indicate the unfavourable results of Protection on the workers in that town :—

"It is stated by the best authorities that the general cost of living at Boston has increased 42 per cent. during the past seven years. . . . Since 1903 china ware has advanced 25 per cent. in price, kitchen utensils 10 per cent., furniture 20 per cent., linen 30 per cent., cotton goods 15 per cent., underwear 15 per cent."

The following table shows the advance in prices of clothes "of such quality as clerks or artisans would use" :—

			1904.	1908.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Shirt	...	...	0 4 2	0 6 3
Suit	...	...	3 2 6	3 15 0
Coat	...	...	6 5 0	8 6 8
Hat	...	...	{ 0 8 4 0 12 6	{ 0 12 6 0 16 8
Boots	...	...	{ 0 12 6 0 14 7	{ 0 14 7 0 16 8

"Not many years ago a labourer could get good board and lodging for 16s. 8d. a week; to-day he cannot get similar accommodation for less than £1 os. 10d. a week, and often he has to pay as much as £1 5s. Similarly a restaurant which formerly sold meal tickets at rates varying from 13s. 6½d. to 14s. 7d. for 21 can scarcely make its business pay by charging 18s. 9d. for the same number of tickets.

"Labourers pay from one-fourth to one-fifth of their wages in rent. They earn between £2 1s. 8d. and £2 10s. a week, and spend on rent between £2 1s. 8d. and £2 10s. a month. This class is usually crowded in highly congested districts. Clerks and artisans pay between £2 10s. and £4 3s. 4d. a month for rent, but as they usually live in the suburbs the tram fare of at least 5d. a day should be added to the above estimates for purposes of comparison with rents in the city.

"It should be added that at Boston *no permanent rise of earnings proportionate to the above augmentations in prices appears to have taken place.*" In other words, in spite of the alleged wondrous working of Protection, there has been a very serious drop in real wages during the period in question.

## LOCOMOTIVES.

In 1901 we imported £25,000 worth of locomotives, but practically none since that date. Our exports have been valued as follows :—

	Exports. £000		Exports. £000		Exports. £000
1895 ...	798	1901 ...	1,911	1905 ...	2,385
1897 ...	1,006	1902 ...	2,299	1906 ...	2,895
1899 ...	1,467	1903 ...	2,359	1907 ...	3,433
1900 ...	1,496	1904 ...	1,929	1908 ...	3,001

## MACHINERY—Exports of.

(These figures are taken from Cd. 4,594 of 1909, page 80.)

From		U.K. £mil.	France. £mil.	Germany. £mil.	U.S.A. £mil.
1890-94	...	14.8	1.5	3.3	4.1
1895-99	...	17.3	2.0	6.2	7.6
1900	...	19.6	2.5	10.6	14.9
1901	...	17.8	2.2	9.1	13.8
1902	...	18.8	2.1	8.9	13.3
1903	...	20.1	2.3	10.4	15.0
1904	...	21.1	2.4	11.4	16.5
1905	...	23.3	2.8	13.3	17.5
1906	...	26.8	3.3	17.0	21.1
1907	...	31.7	3.8	21.6	24.4
1908	...	31.0	3.7	22.9	23.7

## MACHINERY. (See p. 11.)

### Machinery—Agricultural.

	* Re-			* Re-							
	*Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	*Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000					
1895	...	—	...	1,444	1903	...	468	...	409	...	1,855
1897	...	—	...	1,106	1904	...	499	...	228	...	2,012
1899	...	—	...	1,707	1905	...	705	...	429	...	2,146
1900	...	—	...	1,628	1906	...	741	...	502	...	2,307
1901	...	369	...	183	1907	...	770	...	501	...	2,155
1902	...	397	...	131	1908	...	726	...	405	...	2,312

\* Not enumerated till 1901.

Our imports for home use are of small importance, while our export trade is developing satisfactorily. Russia, Germany, and Argentina are our best customers abroad.

### Machinery—Electrical (not enumerated till 1903).

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000
1903	...	555	...	35	...	437
1904	...	559	...	74	...	523
1905	...	497	...	37	...	644
				1906	...	571
				1907	...	603
				1908	...	578
					...	32
					...	842
					...	34
					...	996
					...	1,354

The increase in exports indicates a satisfactory development in this industry which is not, as a rule, admitted by Tariff Reformers.

The development of the electrical industry in this country is by no means adequately reflected in the export figures. During the first decade of its growth it was seriously handicapped by unwise

legislation; but the President of the Institution of Electrical Engineers has recently stated that, while the total capital invested in the industry in this country in 1899 was only £106 millions, in 1909 it was £386 millions. Such facts are more telling than the figures of our foreign trade, which evidently bear small relation to those of our total output.

### Machinery—Mining.

	* Re-			* Re-		
	*Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	*Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000
1895	...	—	... 717	1903	... 54	... 21 ... 782
1897	...	—	... 869	1904	... 29	... 19 ... 874
1899	...	—	... 731	1905	... 62	... 15 ... 833
1900	...	—	... 562	1906	... 67	... 19 ... 733
1901	...	46	... 18	1907	... 81	... 26 ... 875
1902	...	27	... 33	1908	... 78	... 19 ... 913

\* Not enumerated till 1901.

### Machinery—Sewing Machines (and parts thereof).

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000
1895	...	237	... 34	1903	... 378	... 54 ... 2,035
1897	...	291	... 46	1904	... 374	... 76 ... 2,269
1899	...	267	... 69	1905	... 337	... 91 ... 1,968
1900	...	280	... 77	1906	... 591	... 325 ... 1,577
1901	...	351	... 43	1907	... 486	... 231 ... 1,831
1902	...	378	... 65	1908	... 232	... 103 ... 1,566

Our re-exports are very considerable, and the amount of foreign competition is not large. Russia is by far our best customer, taking about one-third of our exports.

### Machinery—Textile.

	* Re-			* Re-		
	*Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	*Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000
1895	...	—	... 6,152	1903	... 235	... 10 ... 5,730
1897	...	—	... 5,702	1904	... 192	... 14 ... 5,001
1899	...	—	... 6,804	1905	... 143	... 9 ... 5,606
1900	...	—	... 6,214	1906	... 168	... 21 ... 6,710
1901	...	112	... 14	1907	... 230	... 36 ... 8,039
1902	...	119	... 51	1908	... 184	... 11 ... 8,829

\* Not enumerated till 1901.

India, Italy, Japan, Austria, the United States, and Brazil are our best customers abroad for textile machinery.

**MANUFACTURES.** (*See pp. 11 and 12: also under France, Germany, United States.*)

**Manufactures—Foreign Trade Compared.**

The following are the values, to the nearest million, of manufactured goods imported for home consumption into and exported from the four countries mentioned since 1880. (Cd. 4,594) :—

Imports.				—	Exports.			
United Kingdom. £mil.	Germany. £mil.	†U.S. of America. £mil.	France. £mil.	Year.	United Kingdom. £mil.	Germany. £mil.	†U.S. of America. £mil.	France. £mil.
65	38	64	24	1880	197	82	25	74
63	41	61	27	1881	207	86	28	75
65	43	70	31	1882	213	92	34	75
67	47	71	31	1883	211	96	33	74
63	45	63	28	1884	204	99	32	68
64	41	54	24	1885	186	88	31	65
63	42	60	23	1886	186	96	30	70
63	41	67	23	1887	194	101	31	69
70	43	69	23	1888	203	102	32	68
74	49	68	24	1889	215	103	35	77
73	48	72	26	1890	225	106	37	80
76	44	73	28	1891	210	101	39	77
76	42	65	25	1892	193	96	38	75
75	44	75	23	1893	186	98	37	70
78	41	47	22	1894	181	92	42	66
85	45	61	23	1895	192	107	43	76
92	46	67	25	1896	206	113	54	76
95	47	63	24	1897	196	*113	65	77
96	50	47	25	1898	194	118	68	77
104	56	53	29	1899	*219	133	79	91
110	59	69	34	1900	228	147	101	90
109	52	68	31	1901	223	142	97	90
116	54	77	31	1902	227	152	95	95
116	59	93	33	1903	234	161	97	96
116	60	85	33	1904	243	169	109	101
121	65	88	35	1905	269	188	127	110
130	82	108	40	1906	306	216	143	123
128	88	131	47	1907	342	236	154	134
120	76	108	45	1908	297	213	156	118

\* The U.K. figures since 1899 and the German figures since 1897 include ships. † Year ending June 30th.

*See also under France, Germany, and United States.*

## Manufactures—British Imports and Exports of.

The following analysis of our imports of manufactured goods in the six years 1903-8 (taken from Cd. 4,954 of 1909, pp. 48-52) shows the nature of those manufactures under the following heads :—

Class A.—Articles completely manufactured and ready for consumption.

Class B.—Articles mainly manufactured, but requiring to pass through some process of adaptation or combination before entering into consumption.

Class C.—Articles partly manufactured.

To assist in understanding these distinctions we may take one of the instances given by the Board of Trade. To follow a single article through the three stages : Yarn would be in Class C, cloth woven from it in Class B, and a coat made from the cloth in Class A. Now observe that the yarn, though manufactured so far as the spinner is concerned, is raw material to the weaver; the cloth, though manufactured so far as the weaver is concerned, is raw material to the tailor. What is a manufactured article to one industry is raw material to another, and all the goods enumerated under Classes B and C are of this character.

Bearing this in mind, let us consider the analysis of our Foreign trade in manufactures during recent years, according to the degree of manufacture of the commodities.

### IMPORTS FOR HOME CONSUMPTION OF MANUFACTURES.

Net Imports.	1903 £mil.	1904 £mil.	1905 £mil.	1906 £mil.	1907 £mil.	1908 £mil.
Class A ...	52.9	49.9	50.9	51.5	49.7	44.8
Class B ...	44.1	43.7	47.8	52.3	50.6	49.9
Class C ...	19.3	22.2	22.7	26.5	27.6	25.1
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>116.3</b>	<b>115.8</b>	<b>121.4</b>	<b>130.3</b>	<b>127.9</b>	<b>119.8</b>

It will be seen that our imports under Class A have fallen off considerably since 1903, and, as a matter of fact, they were no greater in 1908 than they were in 1900. They include some £3 millions of Empire manufactures.

The lesson from this table is that in taxing out manufactured imports, as Tariff Reformers intend to do, they would tax a large amount of goods belonging to Classes (B) and (C), which are essentially the raw materials of industry. Of course, in a sense, even the goods in Class (A) are arguably "raw materials"; but even waiving that point, it will be seen how much injury the proposed taxes would inflict on the industries which use partially manufactured goods as their raw materials.

## Manufactures—British Imports and Exports of *(Continued).*

Exports.	EXPORTS OF BRITISH MANUFACTURES.					
	(Including ships as fully manufactured).					
	1903 £mil.	1904 £mil.	1905 £mil.	1906 £mil.	1907 £mil.	1908 £mil.
Class A ...	91·9	... 89·4	... 97·6	... 112·4	... 126·2	... 113·7
Class B ...	117·9	... 129·7	... 143·0	... 157·2	... 172·5	... 150·7
Class C ...	24·3	... 24·2	... 28·4	... 35·9	... 43·3	... 32·6
Total ...	234·1	... 243·3	... 269·0	... 305·5	... 342·0	... 297·0

This table absolutely explodes the Tariff Reform theory that our manufactured exports are mainly those which have not been subjected to a high process of manufacture ; for we see that by far the greatest proportion of such exports consists of goods in Classes A and B. "

Again, between 1903 and 1908, our exports of Class A manufactures to foreign countries increased from £44·4 million to £65·4 million, or £21 millions ; to British Possessions, from £47·5 millions to £48·3 millions, or only £800,000. That is to say, foreign countries are becoming increasingly good customers for our fully manufactured goods ; while in our Dominions abroad our market for such goods is stagnant ; and would be small indeed but for the demands of India. Between 1903 and 1908 our exports of manufactured goods *in all classes* to foreign countries increased £48·9 millions, to British Possessions only £14 millions.

## MATCHES.

	Re- Imports. Exports. £000			British Exports. £000			Re- Imports. Exports. £000			British Exports. £000		
	1895	... 863	... 104	... 87	1903	... 487	... 93	... 59	1904	... 465	... 105	... 62
1897	...	350	... 101	... 59	1905	... 582	... 117	... 66	1906	... 579	... 161	... 66
1899	...	353	... 72	... 88	1907	... 551	... 187	... 76	1908	... 609	... 207	... 85
1900	...	381	... 67	... 99								
1901	...	423	... 115	... 108								
1902	...	419	... 98	... 71								

## MEAT. (*See under Food Products.*)

## MILK. (*See under Food Products.*)

## MINERALS—Production.

The total value of minerals raised in the United Kingdom in 1908 was £130,003,670, of which coal was responsible for £116,598,848.

Of the metallic minerals raised in the United Kingdom, iron ore is by far the most important. During the year the output of ores of this metal was 15,031,025 tons, valued at £3,724,165. The ore yielded 4,847,448 tons of iron, or more than one-half of the total quantity of pig iron made in this country.

The number of hands employed in all mines and quarries in the United Kingdom was 1,060,000 in 1907 and 1,103,000 in 1908.

## **"MOST-FAVoured-NATION" TREATMENT.**

The ordinary form of the "most-favoured-nation" clause which is included in British commercial treaties with every nation of any importance in the world is somewhat as follows :—

"No other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importations into the dominions and possessions of His Britannic Majesty of any article the growth, produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the King of (the other contracting nation) from whatever place arriving; and no other or higher duties . . . ." (&c., &c., *mutatis mutandis*) "than are or shall be payable on the like article the growth, produce or manufacture of any foreign country."

The general result is that if a nation (A) enters into a commercial treaty with nation (B) whereby (A) reduces the tariffs on certain products of (B) and (B) on those of (A), both (A) and (B) automatically reduce their tariffs against the similar products of the nations to whom they grant most-favoured-nation treatment. For instance, if Germany, as a result of negotiation or after a "tariff war" (by which is meant the raising of two nations' tariffs against one another for purposes of retaliation) with France, succeeded in obtaining a reduction in the French duties against German woollen goods, British woollen goods would be admitted into France at those reduced rates of duty owing to the fact that France gives us most-favoured-nation treatment under the terms of a Franco-British treaty of 1826.

This is an example of the general operation of the most-favoured-nation clauses of treaties between various nations; but there is an exception to this operation. The United States Dingley Tariff of 1897 provided for reciprocity with other countries; but when the United States by a reciprocal trade arrangement reduce their tariff against certain goods of another country (A) no other country (B or C) *automatically* receives the benefit of that reduction on similar goods; but in order to obtain that benefit must give the United States advantages equivalent to those which (A) has given. In other words, most-favoured-nation treatment does not exist in the States in the sense in which it exists everywhere else. But so far as we are concerned, the United States gives British goods the benefit of their minimum tariff; and it is

certain that we shall continue to receive that advantage so long as American goods are allowed a free market in this country.

The position then is that by virtue of the most-favoured-nation clauses in our trade agreements with other countries, we are automatically entitled to have our goods admitted into each country under the lowest tariff which it imposes on such goods. We stand to gain and cannot lose by any reduction, no matter how obtained, of duties against goods imported into a country which grants us most-favoured-nation treatment.

## MOTOR CARS AND PARTS (not separately distinguished till 1904).

	Imports		Re-exports		Exports.	
	Cars. £000	Parts. £000	Cars. £000	Parts. £000	Cars. £000	Parts. £000
1904	... 2,080	... 344	... 169	... 28	... 241	... 80
1905	... 2,438	... 929	... 267	... 54	... 376	... 126
1906	... 2,486	... 1,885	... 312	... 110	... 495	... 323
1907	... 2,080	... 2,473	... 247	... 136	... 858	... 467
1908	... 1,390	... 2,723	... 162	... 198	... 801	... 458

The large importation of parts, many of which are foreign patents, testifies to the development in the manufacture of cars in this country. Indeed, the industry has now become a huge one, as is abundantly testified by the Tariff Reform Press in its advertisements, though not invariably in its political notes.

## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (including parts).

	Re- Imports. £000			British Exports. £000			Re- Imports. £000			British Exports. £000					
	exports. £000	Exports. £000		exports. £000	Exports. £000		exports. £000	Exports. £000		exports. £000	Exports. £000				
1895	... 996	... 49	... 159	1903	... 1,373	... 80	... 307	1904	... 1,183	... 92	... 263	1905	... 1,160	... 85	... 273
1897	... 1,183	... 47	... 186	1906	... 1,164	... 90	... 270	1907	... 1,133	... 90	... 293	1908	... 1,063	... 101	... 262
1899	... 1,281	... 45	... 195												
1900	... 1,222	... 47	... 200												
1901	... 1,405	... 52	... 225												
1902	... 1,369	... 68	... 264												

Imports are mainly pianos from Germany, where the scientific study of sound production has been carried to great perfection. The prevailing view that the German piano is a cheap competitor with the British is quite a wrong one, for in many cases the expensive imported article is preferred by connoisseurs to those of the very best British make.

## NAILS. (See Iron and Steel.)

## NATIONAL DEBT.

The National Debt, by which is meant the Gross Liabilities of the State, is for the most part the legacy left to us by our foreign wars. In 1816, the amount was £900,436,000, which was reduced to £788 millions in 1837, but the Crimean War added £33 millions to it, and the Boer War £133 millions. For more recent years, our National Debt has been as follows :—

	£		£
1860 .....	822,835,579	1899 .....	635,393,734
1865 .....	812,742,858	1900 .....	638,919,932
1870 .....	793,089,295	1901 .....	703,934,349
1875 .....	767,268,559	1902 .....	765,215,653
1880 .....	770,604,774	1903 .....	798,349,190
1885 .....	739,882,117	1904 .....	794,498,100
1890 .....	689,089,046	1905 .....	796,736,491
1895 .....	659,001,552	1906 .....	788,990,187
1896 .....	652,286,366	1907 .....	779,164,704
1897 .....	645,171,525	1908 .....	762,326,051
1898 .....	638,817,507	1909 .....	754,121,309

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

Area, 42,700 square miles. Population, 230,000.

### IMPORTS FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

Years.	Food. &c.	Raw Materials.	Manu- factures.	Total Merchandise.
	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	64	35	410	509
1905 ...	69	22	427	518
1906 ...	64	18	463	545
1907 ...	64	18	466	548

### IMPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	330	90	253	673
1905 ...	277	103	257	637
1906 ...	435	114	267	816
1907 ...	363	118	289	770

### EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM.

	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	91	301	18	410
1905 ...	104	283	12	399
1906 ...	83	249	10	342
1907 ...	89	210	8	307

### EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	948	307	6	1,261
1905 ...	985	306	3	1,294
1906 ...	1,363	272	4	1,639
1907 ...	1,457	294	5	1,756

## NEW ZEALAND.

Area, 105,000 square miles. Population in 1907, 940,000.

New Zealand is the only one of our Self-Governing Dominions which gives the goods of the Mother Country anything like truly preferential treatment, the preference dating from 1903. Nearly the whole of her foreign trade is carried on with the Mother Country and the Sister Dominions, and foreign competition is very slight.

### New Zealand—Trade.

From	IMPORTS (INCLUDING BULLION).				
	1895 £mil.	1900 £mil.	1901 £mil.	1902 £mil.	1903 £mil.
United Kingdom ...	4·0	... 6·5	... 6·9	... 6·8	... 7·5
British Possessions	1·8	... 2·6	... 2·9	... 2·6	... 3·1
Foreign Countries ...	·6	... 1·5	... 2·0	... 1·9	... 2·2
Total ...	6·4	... 10·6	... 11·8	... 11·3	... 12·8

To	EXPORTS (INCLUDING BULLION).				
	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.	£mil.
United Kingdom ...	7·0	... 10·3	... 9·3	... 9·4	... 11·4
British Possessions	1·1	... 2·3	... 2·9	... 3·6	... 2·8
Foreign Countries ...	·4	... ·6	... ·7	... ·6	... ·8
Total ...	8·5	... 13·2	... 12·9	... 13·6	... 15·0

A detailed analysis of New Zealand's Foreign Trade in recent years is here given.

Years.	IMPORTS FROM UNITED KINGDOM.				
	Food, &c. £000	Raw Materials. £000	Manu- factures. £000	Total Merchandise. £000	Bullion & Specie. £000
					£000
1904 ...	592	... 209	... 7,181	... 7,982	...
1905 ...	599	... 229	... 6,956	... 7,784	... 11
1906 ...	664	... 215	... 8,043	... 8,922	... 11
1907 ...	775	... 343	... 9,160	... 10,278	... 80

IMPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.					
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	356	... 285	... 1,621	... 2,262	...
1905 ...	410	... 266	... 1,442	... 2,118	... 1
1906 ...	493	... 359	... 1,465	... 2,317	... 5
1907 ...	461	... 353	... 1,546	... 2,360	... 1

EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM.					
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ...	4,603	... 6,170	... 100	... 10,873	... 1,003
1905 ...	4,377	... 6,811	... 108	... 11,296	... 792
1906 ...	4,827	... 8,597	... 98	... 13,522	... 525
1907 ...	5,696	... 9,760	... 128	... 15,584	... 949

## New Zealand—Trade (Continued).

EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.										
	£000		£000		£000		£000		£000	£000
1904	...	63	...	666	...	48	...	777	...	7
1905	...	87	...	838	...	41	...	966	...	10
1906	...	72	...	785	...	36	...	893	...	14
1907	...	79	...	857	...	35	...	971	...	5

## NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

Till 1895 the figures of the foreign trade of Norway and Sweden were not separately returned. Till that date our imports from and exports to the two countries were as follows :—

Averages.	Imports.	Exports.	Averages.	Imports.	Exports.				
	£mil.	£mil.		£mil.	£mil.				
1875-79	...	10	...	4	1885-89	...	11	...	4
1880-84	...	11	...	4	1890-94	...	12	...	5

Since 1895 our foreign trade with Norway and Sweden has been as follows :—

Averages.	Imports	Exports	Averages.	Imports	Exports
	from Norway. £mil.	to Norway. £mil.		from Sweden. £mil.	to Sweden. £mil.
1895-99	...	5	1895-99	...	9
1900	...	5·76	1900	...	10·64
1901	...	5·56	1901	...	9·79
1902	...	5·41	1902	...	9·57
1903	...	5·72	1903	...	10·34
1904	...	5·64	1904	...	9·71
1905	...	5·95	1905	...	9·83
1906	...	6·90	1906	...	10·73
1907	...	6·61	1907	...	11·07
1908	...	6·51	1908	...	10·35

Those "foreign doors" which we are alleged to import in such enormous quantities bulk far larger in Tariff Reformers' imagination than in our trade statistics. In 1908 our total imports of "Furniture, House Frames, &c.," from Sweden only amounted to £114,538. For our granite imports see under **Granite**.

## OIL, SEEDS, &c. (See p. 10.)

## OIL CLOTH.

	Imports.	British	Imports.	British
	£000	Exports.		Exports.
1895	...	—	1903	...
1897	...	157	1904	...
1899	...	153	1905	...
1900	...	120	1906	...
1901	...	73	1907	...
1902	...	71	1908	...

France is our best customer, but our markets all over the world are steadily increasing, while foreign competition is negligible.

## OIL SEED CAKE.

	Re-			British			Re-			British		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.									
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000		£000	£000		£000	£000
1895	...	1,604	...	7	..	—	1903	...	2,165	...	33	... 146
1897	...	1,835	...	17	...	89	1904	...	2,129	...	24	... 177
1899	...	2,649	...	25	...	197	1905	...	2,206	...	10	... 253
1900	...	2,548	...	24	...	200	1906	...	2,362	...	26	... 350
1901	...	2,414	...	20	...	237	1907	...	2,135	...	18	... 300
1902	...	2,473	...	18	...	176	1908	...	2,119	...	22	... 277

Imports are mainly from Egypt and the United States.

## PAPER. (See p. 12.)

## PAPER-MAKING MATERIALS. (See p. 10.)

## PATENT ACTS.

The granting of Patents is a protective act. From earliest times the Crown had the power, subject to certain common law and statutory restrictions, to grant trade monopolies. The "Statute of Monopolies" declared monopolies general to be illegal; but excepted "Letters Patent and grant of privilege for the term of fourteen years or under of the sole working or making of new manufactures *within this realm* to the true and first inventors thereof," it being provided that such grant be not exercised in restraint of trade, or in such a manner as to be "*prejudicial or inconvenient to our subjects in general.*"

Till 1907 no special provision had been made whereby a foreign inventor who had obtained a patent in this country could be compelled to work the invention in this country. An abuse thence sprang up; for certain foreigners and colonials who had obtained the sole right to "make, use, exercise and vend an invention within the United Kingdom," (to quote the actual words of the Letters Patent) did not either exercise that right or allow anyone else to do so. They merely used their Patent rights to prevent altogether the manufacture of the patent article in this country; and this being a violation of the spirit of Patent Law a new Act was passed in 1907 which obliges a foreign holder of a British patent to work that patent in this country under pain of forfeiting his right to it.

It will be seen that the new Patent Act, so far from being a stringently protectionist measure, as Tariff Reformers assert, really implies a limitation of the already limited protection hitherto granted by our Patent Acts. It is therefore really a move away from Protection and in the direction of Free Trade.

## PAUPERISM.

The following table gives Statistics of Pauperism in England and Wales between 1850 and 1908:—

Year Ended at Lady Day.	Average (daily) Number of Paupers (excluding Casual and Insane).		Proportion per 1,000 of Population.		
	In-door Paupers.	Out-door Paupers.	In-door Paupers.	Out-door Paupers.	Total.
<i>England &amp; Wales.</i>					
1850 .. ..	114,000	878,000	6·5	50·0	56·5
1870 .. ..	140,778	838,295	6·4	37·7	44·1
1890 .. ..	165,603	530,050	5·8	18·7	24·5
1908 .. ..	237,549	534,797	6·8	15·3	22·1
<i>London.</i>					
1850 .. ..	24,000	81,000	10·5	35·4	45·9
1870 .. ..	33,289	108,184	10·5	34·0	44·5
1890 .. ..	51,808	38,554	12·5	9·3	21·8
1908 .. ..	69,853	46,185	14·7	9·7	24·4

More than 85 per cent. of the total Pauperism of England and Wales consists of children or adults who receive public assistance on account of physical or mental disability.

## PIANOS. (*See Musical Instruments.*)

(No returns before 1904.)

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1904 ... 649 .. 28 ... 137				1907 ... 677 .. 27 ... 165		
1905 ... 680 .. 24 ... 145				1908 ... 615 .. 35 ... 149		
1906 ... 706 .. 31 ... 155						

## PICTURES, ENGRAVINGS, &c.

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895 ... 303 .. 101 ... 459				1903 ... 276 .. 91 ... 476		
1897 ... 242 .. 110 ... 355				1904 ... 245 .. 170 ... 488		
1899 ... 278 .. 103 ... 431				1905 ... 291 .. 164 ... 441		
1900 ... 222 .. 81 ... 416				1906 ... 293 .. 129 ... 413		
1901 ... 301 .. 122 ... 424				1907 ... 235 .. 127 ... 411		
1902 ... 323 .. 179 ... 431				1908 ... 194 .. 105 ... 486		

## PIPES—Tobacco.

	Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000		Imports. £000	Re-exports. £000
1897	167	68	1903	277	89
1898	140	64	1904	238	83
1899	156	61	1905	239	75
1900	277	85	1906	219	74
1901	303	107	1907	300	101
1902	305	105	1908	360	128

British exports in 1908 amounted to £86,386. No details for previous years.

## PLATE AND PLATED OR GILT WARE.

	Imports. £000	Exports. £000		Imports. £000	Exports. £000
1895	22	346	1903	30	578
1897	23	418	1904	37	620
1899	33	421	1905	43	655
1900	35	459	1906	30	712
1901	35	501	1907	23	781
1902	35	530	1908	21	706

## POPULATION.

The following are the details of the increase in the population of the United Kingdom since 1901 :—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Families.	Average Size of Family.	Inhabited Houses.
1801	—	—	15,895,956	—	—	—
1811	—	—	17,907,120	—	—	—
1821	10,174,868	10,718,716	20,893,584	4,253,415	4·91	3,572,232
1831	11,680,532	12,348,052	24,028,584	4,799,241	5·01	4,100,753
1841	13,060,497	13,670,432	26,730,929	Not stated	Not stated	Not Stated
1851	13,369,227	14,021,402	27,390,629	5,516,707	4·97	4,694,570
1861	14,063,477	14,864,008	28,927,485	6,298,408	4·59	5,127,881
1871	15,301,830	16,182,831	31,484,661	6,857,362	4·59	5,632,682
1881	16,972,654	17,912,194	34,884,848	7,440,978	4·69	6,484,632
1891	18,314,571	19,418,351	37,732,922	7,939,203	4·75	7,139,643
1901	20,102,408	21,356,313	41,458,721	8,914,324	4·65	8,045,924

The estimated population in the middle of the year 1909 was 45,008,421.

## POTATOES.

	Imports. £000	Exports. £000		Imports. £000	Exports. £000
1895	... 1,170	... 55	1903	... 2,603	... 49
1897	... 1,200	... 66	1904	... 2,438	... 116
1899	... 1,578	... 61	1905	... 1,405	... 111
1900	... 2,235	... 43	1906	... 1,332	... 142
1901	... 1,852	... 91	1907	... 2,372	... 60
1902	... 1,589	... 311	1908	... 1,967	... 102

Most of our imports are those of early potatoes from the Channel Islands and from France, and to regard these as "competing" with our own products is to strain the meaning of that word out of all reason.

## PREFERENCE—COLONIAL.

A short history of the Colonial Preference movement is given in the Handbook to the Tariff Question (Fourth Edition) published by the Free Trade Union.

No recent indications are available of any willingness on the part of any of our Self-Governing Dominions to give any preference to the goods of the Mother Country which will tend to put them on an even footing, as regards competition, with goods of home production. Indeed, in Canada and Australia more especially, movements are continually on foot to curtail existing preferences; and complaints are rife of the alleged injury to industry caused by the competition of British goods, where the existing duties have not presented quite insurmountable barriers to British exports. The expectation that any of our Dominions will ever give such preferential treatment to British goods as will be anything like a fair compensation for the sacrifice which the taxation of corn and meat would entail on the consumers in this country seems as far from realisation as ever.

The preferential aspect of Tariff Reform has receded into the background, and, as a rule, is only referred to in the perorations of Protectionist speeches, and even then arouses little interest. True, Mr. Balfour, so recently as in his Manchester speech of November 17th, 1909, appears to adhere with persistent and almost ludicrous fidelity to his old ideal of "Free Trade within the Empire," as in some way about to emanate from the imposition of taxes on our imported food. Every Free Trader will share with him in that ideal, to which only one objection can be taken—and that is taken by nearly everyone but himself. It is absolutely impossible of realisation. Even "*freer trade*" between the Mother Country and the different parts of the Empire only requires one thing to ensure its being placed equally beyond hope of realisation. That one thing the modern school of Tariff Reformers are only too anxious to provide—namely, the "preferential taxation" of Empire produce which now is admitted freely into this

country. This is a spurious and unhealthy development of the scheme which Mr. Chamberlain conceived when he first proposed to "unite the Empire" by taxing only our *foreign* imports; a development which only adds to the real fears of those who have always held that fiscal "bargaining" with the different parts of our great Empire over the seas will merely conduce to the straining of the bonds of sentiment and loyalty which now bind them to one another and to the Mother Country.

## PRODUCTION—Census of, in 1907.

The first of a series of Tables summarising for the more important trades of the country the preliminary results of the Returns received under the Census of Production Act, 1906, has recently been issued by the Board of Trade. The tables now presented contain preliminary figures relating to Mines under the Coal Mines Regulation Acts, Coke Works, and Shale Oil Works in connection with such mines, and Factories in the Cotton Trade, Woollen and Worsted Trades, certain branches of the Iron and Steel trades and the Tinplate Trade. Particulars as to the Bleaching, Dyeing, and Printing Trades, and the Cotton Lace and Cotton Hosiery Trades, are not included in this Report.

The following short statement shows for the United Kingdom as a whole the gross output, the cost of materials used, the amount paid for work given out to other firms, and the "net output" as above defined the number of persons employed (including salaried persons) and the net output per person :—

	Gross Out-put Selling Value. (1)	Materials used. Cost. (2)	Work given out. Amount paid to Other Firms. (3)	Net Output Excess of Column (1) over Columns (2) and (3). (4)	Persons Employed. Total. (5)	Net Output per Person Employed. (6)
Mines under the Coal Mines Regulation Acts	£000 123,245	£000 16,881	£000 —	£000 106,364	840,280	£
Coke Works ..	10,141	7,148	—	2,993	10,944	129
Shale Oil Works	2,371	1,594	—	777	3,391	
Cotton Factories	176,940	129,095	904	46,941	572,869	82
Woollen and Worsted Fctrs.	70,331	49,241	1,638	19,452	257,017	76
Tinplate Fctries.	9,350	7,203	—	2,147	21,222	101
Iron and Steel Factories (Smelting, Founding, and Rolling) ..	105,597	74,049	600	30,948	262,225	118
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>497,975</b>	<b>285,211</b>	<b>3,142</b>	<b>209,622</b>	<b>1,967,948</b>	—

## RAILS. (*See under Iron and Steel.*)

### RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

According to the census of 1901 the number of Railway Employees then totalled 575,834. The aggregate of 621,341 revealed by the Board of Trade census at the end of 1907, shows a considerable increase, the number including mechanics and artisans, 93,797 ; permanent-way men, 67,184 ; labourers, 59,812 ; men and women clerks, 58,503 ; porters, 56,402 ; signalmen, 28,658 ; engine-drivers and motormen, 28,141 ; firemen, 25,714. Between 1898 and 1907 the average wages per head of all railway employees in England and Wales increased from 25s. 1½d., to 26s. 4½d.

### RAILWAY STATISTICS.

Year.	Mileage.	Capital Paid Up. Mil. £.	Number of Passengers. Millions.	Gross Receipts. £ooo.	Net Receipts. £ooo.
1855	8,335	297	119	Cannot be given	—
1860	10,433	348	163		14,579
1865	13,289	455	252		18,741
1870	15,537	530	337	45,078	23,362
1875	16,658	630	507	61,237	28,016
1880	17,933	728	604	65,491	31,890
1885	19,169	816	697	69,555	32,767
1890	20,073	897	818	79,948	36,760
1895	21,174	1,001	930	85,922	38,046
1900	21,855	1,176	1,142	104,801	40,058
1908	23,205	1,310	1,278	119,894	43,486

### RE-EXPORTS.

Owing to our position as carriers and distributors of a great portion of the world's trade, we every year import, and afterwards export again, a very large amount of foreign and Colonial goods. The value of this trade for each year since 1854 is given on page six. In recent years some 25 per cent. of the total consists of goods passing through the country on Through Bills of Lading, the rest being goods which are taken into British stores and afterwards sold by our merchants.

It must be remembered that if we purchase goods, say, from Australia, and afterwards re-export them, say, to Germany, Australia has to be paid for them and Germany has to pay us for them. In dealing, therefore, with figures, say, of Anglo-German or Anglo-American trade, our re-exports to Germany and America should properly be added to British exports to those countries.

Take the case of our trade with Germany in 1908. In that year we received goods from Germany valued at £54,959,859, and exported to Germany British goods valued at £33,397,643. The result of those transactions alone is an excess of imports from Germany of £21,562,216 ; and Tariff Reformers point to it and say that Germany has poured £21½ millions worth of goods into our unprotected market, for which she refused to take payment in British goods—a grievous injury, they allege, to our workers. But in 1908 we sent to Germany £12,981,417 worth of foreign and Colonial goods also, which reduces our “excess of imports” from Germany to £8½ millions. Tariff Reformers will say, “Quite so, but that £13 millions worth of re-exported goods gave no employment to British hands.” There lies a fallacy. The countries from which we imported those goods in the first instance did not give them to us for nothing. They had to be paid for by visible or invisible exports—that is, by the work of British hands or British brains. If German merchants had not required those non-British goods from British merchants, the latter would not have imported them, they would not have had to be paid for, and the work necessary to pay for them would not have been done by Britons. Besides, our merchants do not sell foreign goods to Germany without making a profit on them, nor do our ships carry them to Germany without earning freights. Our re-export trade has not received much consideration in the Fiscal Controversy; but that it is a real and substantial benefit to British workers, whether they be artisans, merchants, bankers, or shippers, will be apparent when the above facts are duly weighed.

## RETALIATION.

The expectation that the imposition of import duties on food and manufactured goods which come to us from abroad will send foreign diplomatists from every country post haste to make advantageous commercial treaties with us is nourished by all who are Tariff Reformers and by a few who are not. It can only be said that the experiences of other nations in this respect do not lend support to any such contention. Increased protection is answered all over the world by increased protection ; and the evidence of Sir Francis Oppenheimer convincingly shows that Germany’s Tariff of 1906 led, “as a necessary consequence,” to the more stringent treatment of German goods by other countries. (See under **Germany**.)

The first and immediate consequence of the imposition of a tariff on British imports will be the loss of our “most-favoured-nation” treatment abroad. The United States, for instance, will at once put British goods under their “maximum tariff”—in other words, will increase existing duties on British goods by 25 per cent. It is inconceivable that any tariff concessions made after

"negotiation" with the States would ever buy us back the general preferential treatment which our goods now receive at their hands. The same thing is true, in a greater or lesser degree, of every foreign country of any importance, excepting, perhaps, Portugal, which does not at present grant us "most-favoured-nation" treatment.

Mr. Balfour, it is true, does not seem to expect very much result from the "retaliatory" factor in Tariff Reform. His eyes are turned on our Empire abroad. He seems resigned to drop the bone of existing trade with foreign countries, in order to snatch at the shadow of a problematical increase in trade with our protected Dominions. Mr. Hewins, and the advanced Tariff Reform school with him, is sanguine that we shall be able to buy the bone back at no serious cost, and that the shadow will materialize. There is no apparent justification for their confidence; for they have no analogy to guide them, judging from the experiences of Germany, France, and other nations which have "something to bargain with"—which nobody is inclined to accept. The prospect of "tariff wars" which our fiscal Jingoes so cheerfully contemplate is one which deserves much more serious consideration than any of them are inclined to give. At this time the prospect of a series of such wars, as a direct result of the new American tariff, is by no means remote, and, under existing circumstances, we stand to gain by any such occurrences, for the spoil in such cases is usually for the non-combatants.

## RIBBONS—Silk or Satin.

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895	... 3,236	... 275	... 33	1903	... 2,720	... 389
1897	... 3,541	... 278	... 38	1904	... 2,909	... 460
1899	... 3,082	... 300	... 56	1905	... 2,774	... 446
1900	... 2,308	... 299	... 56	1906	... 2,627	... 399
1901	... 2,163	... 327	... 28	1907	... 2,974	... 565
1902	... 2,568	... 369	... 29	1908	... 2,343	... 444
						26

Nearly all our imports are fancy goods from France. The word "ribbons" always draws from our Protectionists a lament over "ruined" Coventry; but Coventry is, as usual, able to take good care of itself, and perhaps no town in the Kingdom has developed so much in extent and industrial activity since it gave up ribbon making as its principal industry, and took to cycle and motor-car making.

## RUSSIA.

Area, 8,380,000 square miles. Population, 152 millions.

Like the United States, Russia invariably has an "excess of exports," a circumstance due, in her case, to the necessity of paying interest on her enormous borrowings from abroad, and

especially from France, the interest on which is estimated at about £50 millions annually. Her national debt is nearly £900 millions.

The following table shows the values of the imports into the United Kingdom from, and exports of British goods to, Russia since 1870, in millions of pounds.

Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.	Averages.	Imports from. £mil.	Exports to. £mil.
1870-74	... 22	... 8	1902	... 25·67	... 8·6
1875-79	... 19	... 6	1903	... 30·93	... 9·1
1880-84	... 18	... 6	1904	... 31·40	... 8·23
1885-89	... 20	... 4	1905	... 33·37	... 8·17
1890-94	... 21	... 6	1906	... 30·05	... 8·86
1895-99	... 22	... 9	1907	... 31·42	... 11·14
1900	... 21·98	... 11·0	1908	... 28·18	... 12·65
1901	... 21·90	... 8·7			

In 1908 our principal imports from Russia were as follows : Butter, £3,402,000; corn and grain, &c., £6,812,000; eggs, £2,518,000; flax, £1,794,000; wood and timber, £8,052,000. Our exports thither included coal, £2,204,000; herrings, £962,000; machinery, £2,464,000; ships, £1,779,000; metal manufactures, £1,170,000.

## SADDLERY and HARNESS. (See Leather.)

### SAVINGS—British.

The following is a statement of the amounts due to depositors in our Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks since 1855 :—

Annual Averages.	Post Office Savings Bank.	Trustee Savings Banks.	Total.
	Mil. £	Mil. £	Mil. £
1855-9	.. ..	—	35·9
1860-4	.. ..	—	40·8
1865-9	.. ..	9·9	37·2
1870-4	.. ..	19·2	39·7
1875-9	.. ..	28·7	43·6
1880-4	.. ..	39·1	44·7
1885-9	.. ..	54·8	46·4
1890-4	.. ..	77·0	42·9
1895-9	.. ..	115·0	48·4
1900	.. ..	135·5	51·5
1901	.. ..	140·4	52·0
1902	.. ..	144·6	52·5
1903	.. ..	146·1	52·5
1904	.. ..	148·3	52·3
1905	.. ..	152·1	52·7
1906	.. ..	156·0	53·0
1907	.. ..	157·5	52·1
1908	.. ..	160·6	51·7

The statistics of the amounts standing to the credit of depositors in what are broadly termed "Savings Banks" of different countries are often compared with one another by Tariff Reformers : with the object of "proving" that the savings of the working-classes in protected countries are greater than, and are increasing faster than, those of our Free Trade country. The Fiscal Blue-book issued a general warning against the validity of any such international comparisons ; stating that "they have only a very limited value, and may lead to very erroneous conclusions if used without qualifications,"—in fact as Tariff Reformers use them. The differences between the nature of the savings banks in various countries, and of the classes which use them, should particularly be taken into consideration. It should also be remembered that savings banks are only one means of investing savings ; and the extent to which they are used in any given country largely depends on whether or not there are other methods of investment equally or more convenient to the thrifty workers.

To show how useless Savings Bank returns are as an indication of prosperity two instances may be given. In Australia, during the great Bank crisis of the early 'nineties, millions of money were removed from the ordinary Banks and placed in the Savings Banks. The increases in the deposits of the latter could hardly have been adduced as an indication of prosperity. Again a study of our own Post Office Savings Bank returns shows that the average amount due to each Irish Depositor in 1906 was 40 per cent. greater than that due to the depositors of any other part of the United Kingdom, and that the amounts per head of Scottish deposits are lowest of all. To argue from this fact that the Irishman is more prosperous, or even more thrifty, than the Scotsman, would be ludicrous : but not more so than is the Tariff Reform "prosperity" argument based on the Savings Statistics of different countries.

In the United Kingdom the "savings banks" which Tariff Reformers appear to recognise as the sole recipients of the savings of our working-classes merely consist of the Post Office Bank. In this there is a limit to deposit of £200, and the annual interest payable to depositors is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

To represent these figures, therefore, as indicating the total savings of our working classes, as Tariff Reformers do, is ridiculous. They are exclusive of the enormous amounts of savings invested for instance in Building Societies, Friendly Societies, Co-operative Societies, Industrial Assurance Companies, and many others. The Registrar of Friendly Societies reports that in 1907 the amounts standing to the credit of the chief Friendly and Provident Societies alone was £193,660,000; but even this amount added to the Post Office Bank Savings given above by no means exhausts the total of the investments of our workers. The total savings in-

cluded in the Registrar's return for 1907 amounted to £440 millions; and this excluded such organisations as Insurance Companies.

### Savings—German.

In GERMANY there is no Post Office Savings Bank. Most of the banks are municipal, but there are many private and rural banks, in some of which deposits up to £2,500 are allowed—a fact which clearly points to the fact that they are largely used by other than the working-classes. Again the interest paid on deposits is considerably higher than that paid by our Post Office.

The following are the amounts standing to the credit of Prussian and other German depositors in these Banks since 1903:—

	Prussian Savings Banks.	Other German Savings Banks.		Total
		£ mill.	£ mill.	
1903	...	361·5	184·7	546·2
1904	...	388·1	197·8	585·9
1905	...	414·7	209·6	624·3
1906	...	439·4	219·0	658·4
1907	...	456·1	226·8	682·9

Tariff Reformers gleefully compare these figures with those of savings in our Post Office Bank to our disadvantage. Quite apart from the fact that the number of depositors is far greater in Germany than in this country, there is absolutely no comparison between them: and our Consul-General in Frankfurt, reporting on the figures of the Prussian Banks in 1908, given above, makes this clear. He warns us that the figures concerning increased deposits in Prussian Savings Banks must not be used as proof that the German working-classes have been saving money of recent years, and that the increase is due rather to the savings of "the shopkeepers, the small employers, and the bourgeois."

### Savings—United States.

In the UNITED STATES, there are no Federal Savings Banks, and the existing banks are governed by the laws of the separate States. The figures most readily available are those for the New York State Savings Banks, in which there is no limit to deposit. Here again, the figures are not comparable with our Savings Banks figures; for in the 25th Report of the New York Bureau of Labour Statistics it is stated that "the average amount deposited to an account—about \$500—indicates that most of the deposits must belong to propertied citizens," and not to the wage-earning classes.

*Училище Ремеселъ М.И.В. Ф.И.В.*

**SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS (other than  
Electrical).**

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895	...	—	278	1903	759	66
1897	...	—	349	1904	784	139
1899	...	—	411	1905	849	163
1900	...	649	54	1906	1,013	313
1901	...	711	51	1907	1,087	485
1902	...	949	66	1908	925	123

**SEWING MACHINES.** (See Machinery.)

**SHIPBUILDING—American.**

The chartering of British vessels to coal the fleet of the United States in its recent voyage to the Pacific has called the serious attention of the American public to the impotency of their merchant marine, following as it did the dispatch of American troops to Cuba in ships flying the British flag. Even American mails to South America and Australasia are carried in British vessels, and nearly 60 per cent. of her over-sea trade is similarly borne. The question of providing a national subsidy for shipping has once again been mooted. It is argued that the £30 or £40 millions or so which the States pay to foreign shipping, mostly to our own, for the carriage of their own imports and exports would go a long way towards building up a fleet. But the real obstacles to the development of the American merchant marine, and those without the removal of which it must remain paralysed, are the prohibition of the purchase by America of ships in the open market, and the high protection given by the American tariff to the makers of ship-building materials, which makes the cost of building a ship in American yards from 30 to 50 per cent. higher than it would be in this country. That means that more capital is required to build the ship, which must therefore earn more profits than a similar ship built under free trade conditions, in order to give the same return to the owner. This renders profitable competition with our shipping out of the question ; and, indeed, all such competition has long ceased. Not more than on an average one or two ocean-going ships have been launched each year from American yards for many years past ; and it is a fact that there are not above a dozen sea-going ships on the Pacific which fly the American flag. The recognised reason for this destruction of the Merchant Marine in the States is the restriction which protection placed on the building industry ; and though this fact was very clearly

brought out before the Commission which examined into the subject in 1904, there is as yet no indication of any desire, or at any rate of any power on the part of the authorities to remove the restrictions which have strangled American shipping.

Tariff Reformers try to make out that the inability of the United States to build ships cannot be due to protection, because their tariff admits shipbuilding materials free of duty. Undoubtedly the U.S.A. tariff does literally provide for the free admission of shipbuilding and other materials, but equally undoubtedly the proviso which accompanies this permissive free importation effectively acts as an embargo on the use of these materials if imported free. For instance, vessels in the construction of which they have been used may not engage in the coastwise trade of the States for more than a certain portion of each year without paying the duties. Only one American ship has been completely built of imported materials, a fact which alone is sufficient to raise the assumption that the "free trade" given by the tariff in one clause must be taken away by some other provision. The Report of the U.S.A. Commission on Merchant Marine thus reports that builders are unable to avail themselves of what would appear *prima facie* to be a real privilege: "Small amounts of foreign steel are occasionally imported for ship use, but the whole quantity is inconsiderable. American ships continue to be constructed of domestic steel, even when designed for foreign service."

There is, therefore, no free import, or only a nominal one, of ship materials to compete with Steel Trust products, and to force them to reduce their prices. The Commission's Report above referred to recognises this fact: "American steel mills," it says, "long and amply protected, sell material to foreign yards at eight or ten dollars below the price asked from American yards. These steel mills simply heap an unjust and intolerable burden upon an interest now well-nigh prostrate. A sense of fair play, or even cool business prudence, should make it manifest to the steel companies that they ought to do their utmost to encourage the struggling American shipyards."

It may be noted besides, that practically all the shipping built in the United States is for service on the lakes, and that no freely imported materials may be used in the construction of these ships under any circumstances. The above facts fully show that the manufacturers of shipbuilding materials in the United States are protected and the building industry has suffered accordingly.

### Shipbuilding—British.

Thanks mainly to the skill of British designers and artificers, assisted by the free import of its raw materials, our Shipbuilding

industry is second to none. In 1908 indeed a slackening in our output took place, owing to the world-wide depression in business; but still it was immense.

### Shipbuilding—Comparative Figures.

The following Table shows the Number and Tonnage of Vessels of 100 Tons gross and upwards (excluding Warships) launched in the United Kingdom, the United States, France, and Germany in each of the years 1901 to 1908, inclusive, according to *Lloyd's Annual Summary* :—

Year.	United Kingdom.		France.		Germany.		United States.	
	No.	Gross Tons.	No.	Gross Tons.	No.	Gross Tons.	No.	Gross Tons.
1901	639	1,524,739	92	177,543	101	217,593	286	433,235
1902	694	1,427,558	99	192,196	108	213,961	251	379,174
1903	697	1,190,618	75	92,768	120	184,494	246	381,820
1904	712	1,205,162	69	81,245	149	202,197	227	238,518
1905	795	1,623,168	43	73,124	148	255,423	200	302,827
1906	886	1,828,343	48	35,214	205	318,230	242	441,087
1907	841	1,607,890	50	61,635	188	275,003	255	474,675
1908	523	929,639	50	83,429	120	207,777	238	304,543

### Shipbuilding—French.

Although the system of paying bounties on shipping and shipbuilding prevails in France, it has proved absolutely ineffective. The development of the French merchant marine has been very slow, and her output of ships a negligible quantity compared with ours, or even with that of Germany. The statistics of France's own foreign trade show that while in 1860 41·4 per cent. of her oversea trade was carried in national vessels, the proportion has continually dropped ever since, and in 1907 only amounted to 22·9 per cent., this being the lowest figure on record. On the other hand our share of the French carrying trade has grown from 29·8 per cent. in the former year to 37·5 per cent. in the latter. In 1907 we sold to France 44,000 tons of new ships, a figure two-thirds of her own output. The reasons for France's failure as a shipbuilding nation are (1) the dearness of shipping materials, due to Protection, (2) absence of technical skill amongst those engaged in the industry, and (3) the high level of the running charges of her building yards as compared with ours, due to the absence of orders for ship construction.

## Shipbuilding—German.

In 1908 the total gross tonnage of ships of all sorts launched in Germany was 208,000, or nearly 70,000 less than in 1907. Of this tonnage less than 4,000 tons was built to foreign order. A comparison of these figures with our own previously given is instructive.

In Germany all materials for building, fitting or repairing sea-going ships (not river steamers), except kitchen and cabin fittings, may be imported free, and there are no such restrictions on their use if imported as there are in America. "Yes," say the Tariff Reformers, "but as a matter of fact Germany does not import such building materials, and only a small quantity of fittings. Of what use then is this Free Trade provision to the German builders?" The answer is simple. The German steelworks, instead of refusing to sell shipbuilding materials to the native shipbuilders, except at the monopoly prices which a Protective Tariff guarantees, meet the free import provisions of the Tariff by letting the builders have their materials at export (or as Tariff Reformers say "dumping") prices. They make a virtue of necessity in this instance. Again the German railways, controlled by the State, give special rebates in the freight of such materials from the works to the shipyards. These two circumstances enable the German shipbuilders to use national products to the greatest economic advantage in their shipyards and importation is prevented.

## Shipbuilding—Italian.

Shipbuilding and shipping are supported by bounties in Italy. Since the bounty system was established the total amount paid in subsidies has been actually 50 per cent. more than the total value of its present mercantile fleet, which in 1908 had a total tonnage of 1,020,000.

The net tonnage of new ships launched from Italian yards in recent years has been as follows :—

		Tons			Tons
1900	...	51,476	1905	...	35,702
1902	...	37,827	1907	...	36,433

Over 30 per cent. of Italy's sea borne trade is carried in British vessels.

## Shipbuilding—World's Output in 1908.

According to the "Shipping World" the Output of Ships launched in 1908 was as follows:—

Countries.	Merchant Tonnage.			Government Tonnage.		
	No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.	
Great Britain and Ireland .. ..	1,250	.. 957,188		68	.. 75,879	
British Colonies .. ..	153	.. 30,175		3	.. 496	
United States* .. ..	154	.. 272,330		40	.. 77,419	
Germany .. ..	287	.. 229,428		15	.. 92,705	
Holland .. ..	351	.. 160,510		7	.. 2,924	
Belgium .. ..	40	.. 22,452		—	.. —	
France .. ..	61	.. 87,446		17	.. 18,007	
Norway .. ..	85	.. 53,740		—	.. —	
Sweden .. ..	31	.. 9,407		9	.. 1,360	
Denmark .. ..	25	.. 18,189		4	.. 12	
Spain .. ..	1	.. 3,060		—	.. —	
Italy .. ..	12	.. 26,496		9	.. 23,042	
Austria-Hungary .. ..	34	.. 29,276		5	.. 1,444	
Greece .. ..	—	.. —		—	.. —	
Russia .. ..	10	.. 647		—	.. —	
Japan .. ..	190	.. 65,903		3	.. 1,000	
China .. ..	46	.. 4,873		11	.. 793	
	2,730	.. 1,971,120		191	.. 295,081	

\* Mostly for Service on Great Lakes.

Thus of merchant tonnage there was produced in 1908:—

			No.		Tons.
Great Britain and Ireland .. ..	..	..	1,250	..	957,188
British Colonies .. ..	..	..	153	..	30,175
Foreign Countries .. ..	..	..	1,327	..	983,757
<b>TOTALS .. .. .. ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>2,730</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>1,971,120</b>

It will be noticed that the statistics in the above table do not agree exactly with those given for certain countries on page 103. The reason for the discrepancy is that *all* ships launched are included in above table, while in that previously referred to, only ships of 100 tons and over are included. In the case of the United States the above figures are for the *calendar* year, while those on page 103 are for the *fiscal* year ended June 30th.

The number of ships built to foreign order in Ireland, in 1908, was 20, the gross tonnage 158,146 (or an average of nearly 8,000 tons each), and their value £2,900,000.

## SHIPPING—Comparative Tables.

Statement showing the Comparative Progress of British and Foreign Merchant Shipping (1840-1908).

Year.	United Kingdom. (30)	German Empire. (17½)	France. (2)	United States. (5)
	Net Tons.	Gross Tons.	Net Tons.	Gross Tons.
1840	2,768,262	—	662,500	899,765
1850	3,565,133	—	688,153	1,585,711
1860	4,658,687	—	996,124	2,546,237
1870	5,690,789	982,355	1,072,048	1,516,800
1880	6,574,513	1,181,525	919,298	1,352,810
1890	7,978,538	1,433,413	944,013	946,695
1895	8,988,450	1,502,044	887,078	838,187
1896	9,020,282	1,487,577	894,071	844,954
1897	8,953,171	1,555,371	920,871	805,584
1898	9,001,860	1,639,552	900,288	737,709
1899	9,164,342	1,737,798	957,756	848,246
1900	9,304,108	1,941,645	1,037,726	826,694
1901	9,608,420	2,093,033	1,110,988	889,129
1902	10,054,770	2,203,804	1,217,614	882,555
1903	10,268,604	2,322,045	1,235,341	888,776
1904	10,554,520	2,352,575	1,349,327	898,768
1905	10,735,582	2,469,292	1,387,220	954,513
1906	11,167,332	2,629,093	1,400,542	939,486
1907	11,485,099	2,790,435	1,402,647	871,146
1908	11,541,394	2,825,404	Not available.	940,068

	1870	1907		1870	1907
British	Tons.	Tons.	Austria	Hun-	Tons.
Possessions	1,458,345	1,698,256	gary (100)	329,377	411,296
Norway (4) ..	1,022,515	1,457,607	Greece ..	404,063	466,532
Sweden (20) ..	346,862	771,257	China ..	*21,694	89,863
Denmark (4) ..	178,646	545,981	†Japan ..	*89,309	1,481,439
Holland ..	389,614	447,350	†Spain (50) ..	*560,133	708,749
Belgium (50)	30,149	120,187	Russia (25) ..	*467,884	644,201

Figures in brackets indicate minimum tonnage registered.

\* Tonnage in 1880, that for 1870 not being available.

† Gross Tonnage: all others are net.

In the year 1908-9 the total gross tonnage of British vessels on Lloyd's Register was 17,318,000, that of all the rest of the world 23,604,000 tons.

### Shipping.

It will often be noticed that the figures of shipping tonnage in a given country vary considerably even when official. As a matter of fact a comparison of the tonnages of national shipping is surrounded by qualifications which are not always appreciated

"Lloyd's Register," for instance, only takes note of ships of 100 tons or over (300 tons or over in the case of Japanese sailing vessels), whereas, as will be seen from the above table, the registers of different countries include ships of far lower tonnage, though the minimum tonnage required to be registered varies in different countries. Again in "Lloyd's Register" the gross tonnage of sailing ships and the net tonnage of steam ships appear; whereas the British figures given in the above table, for instance, are *net* tonnage only. The gross tonnage of our merchant marine in 1907 was 17 millions, whereas the net tonnage was 11½ millions. Wherein lies the reason for this discrepancy?

Broadly speaking, the gross tonnage of a ship is indicated by the figure which represents the estimated amount of cargo the *empty shell* of that ship could carry, allowing 40 cubic feet of average cargo to the ton. But in a ship there is a great deal of space which is not used to carry cargo, but is given up to engine rooms, officers' and seamen's quarters, store rooms, bulkheads, etc. When the space so taken up is calculated into "tons," and deducted from "gross" tonnage, the "net" tonnage is obtained.

As a matter of fact the carrying capacity of a ship is usually, especially in modern ships, far higher than the net tonnage figures indicate, and often higher than even the gross tonnage. This fact shows how difficult it is to estimate the carrying capacity of the various national marines from their tonnage figures. Our merchant marine is nearly all composed of new ships, in which the maximum of carrying capacity is provided; whereas that of many other nations consists largely of old ships, in many cases our own cast-offs. Again, sailing vessels, for purposes of tonnage registration, rank equally with steam ships. But a modern steamer has quite three times the carrying power of a sailing vessel of the same tonnage, because it can make three journeys to one of the latter. And, as we have discarded sailing vessels to a far greater extent than other nations, many of which have fleets largely composed of them, it is certain that the carrying capacity of our merchant marine per ton is far greater than that of many if not all foreign fleets per ton.

To sum up, enormous as is the preponderance of the British merchant marine as measured statistically, over those of all other nations, it is far greater still when its efficiency and carrying capacity are taken into account.

### Shipping—British, in Foreign Waters.

The following table indicates to what a great extent British Shipping participates in the world's carrying trade. It shows the percentage of shipping flying the British flag to total shipping

entered and cleared with cargoes and in ballast in the foreign trade of the countries mentioned in 1906, the last year for which comparative details are available.

Russia ... ...	38·7 per cent.	Spain ... ...	26·1 per cent.
Norway ... ...	12·6 „ „	Italy ... ...	30·7 „ „
Germany ... ...	26·7 „ „	U.S.A. ... ...	51·9 „ „
Holland ... ...	34·9 „ „	Chile ... ...	48·0 „ „
Belgium ... ...	48·2 „ „	Argentina ... ...	34·4 „ „
France ... ...	36·3 „ „	Japan ... ...	30·3 „ „
Portugal ... ...	51·8 „ „		

In 1907, 64 per cent. of the gross tonnage of ships passing through the Suez Canal was British, 15 per cent. German, 6 per cent. French, and 4 per cent. Dutch.

### Shipping—British & German Tonnage Compared.

The following is a classification of British and German ships respectively according to their tonnage in 1906.

	British.			German.		
	No.	Net Tons.		No.	Gross Ton	
Under 50 tons ...	8,407	232,259	...	1,519	36,749	
Of 50 to 100 „ „	4,972	343,034	...	669	31,962	
Of 100 to 500 „ „	2,463	537,927	...	809	112,804	
Of 500 to 1,000 „ „	818	592,614	...	324	158,688	
Of 1,000 to 2,000 „ „	1,891	2,935,441	...	451	475,919	
Of 2,000 to 3,000 „ „	1,567	3,808,325	...	231	389,256	
Of 3,000 to 4,000 „ „	375	1,271,246	...	126	290,863	
Of above 4,000 „ „	271	1,446,486	...	301	1,132,852	
Total ...	20,764	11,167,332	...	4,430	2,629,093	

### SHIPS—EXPORTS OF. (*See p. II.*)

The values of our exports of newly built ships were not kept by the Board of Trade till the year 1899—a fact which gives Tariff Reform statisticians an excuse, though not a fair reason, for excluding these values from those of our total exports of manufactures when calculating, with a view to belittling, the development of our export trade. The values of such exports since 1899, have been as follows :

	To Foreign Countries. £000.	To British Possessions. £000.	Total. £000.
1899	8,820	377	9,197
1900	7,755	832	8,587
1901	8,694	455	9,149
1902	4,547	1,325	5,872
1903	3,318	966	4,284
1904	3,267	1,188	4,455
1905	4,468	963	5,431
1906	7,901	743	8,644
1907	8,173	1,845	10,018
1908	8,513	2,054	10,567

Even now the values of our exports of merchant ships which are sold "off the Register" to foreign buyers are not included by the Board of Trade in their statistics of exports. That such exports must be of some considerable value is shown by a glance at the tonnage of ships so sold in recent years, which is as follows :—

	No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.
1899	599	410,402	1904	289	213,637
1900	547	406,062	1905	404	350,368
1901	327	240,533	1906	378	292,812
1902	270	183,131	1907	349	230,012
1903	239	201,916	1908	240	152,673

In the five years 1905-8, we sold to Germany no less than 290,000 gross tons of new ships, worth £3½ millions. Norway, with 215,000 tons, valued at £1¾ millions, was our next best customer. In 1908 Germany's total output of ships to foreign order only amounted to 3,963 tons.

## SILK MANUFACTURES.

Years.	Imports.		Re-exports.		Exports.	
		£000		£000		£000
1866-70	...	11,327	...	226	...	1,199
1871-75	...	10,427	...	408	...	1,992
1876-80	...	12,720	...	252	...	1,830
1881-85	...	10,936	...	449	...	2,363
1886-90	...	10,928	...	757	...	2,410
1891-95	...	12,461	...	725	...	1,514
1896-1900	...	16,125	...	826	...	1,487
1901-05	...	13,488	...	1,625	...	1,511
1906	...	13,070	...	1,221	...	1,859
1907	...	12,863	...	1,936	...	2,010
1908	...	11,908	...	2,005	...	1,335

## SPAIN.

The following table shows the values of the imports into the United Kingdom from, and exports of British goods to, Spain since 1875, in millions of pounds.

Averages.	Imports		Exports		Imports		Exports	
	from.	to.	from.	to.	from.	to.	from.	to.
	£mil.	£mil.		£mil.	£mil.	£mil.		£mil.
1875-79	...	9	...	3	1902	...	14·29	...
1880-84	...	11	...	4	1903	...	13·96	...
1885-89	...	10	...	3	1904	...	13·67	...
1890-94	...	11	...	4	1905	...	13·86	...
1895-99	...	13	...	4	1906	...	15·83	...
1900	...	15·88	...	5·6	1907	...	16·84	...
1901	...	14·04	...	4·8	1908	...	13·34	...

Our imports from Spain in 1908 were practically all of food and raw materials, especially metals and ores, £7,700,000, and

fruits, £3,123,000. Our chief exports thereto were: coal, £1,450,000; manures, £725,000; machinery, £595,000; and metal goods, £510,000.

## STRAW HATS. (*See under Hats.*)

### STRAW PLAIT.

	Re-			*British			Re-			*British		
	Imports.	Exports.	Exports.									
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000		£000	£000		£000	£000
1895	... 749	... 405	... —	1902	... 747	... 279	... 32					
1896	... 912	... 396	... —	1903	... 842	... 290	... 55					
1897	... 875	... 346	... —	1904	... 845	... 314	... 41					
1898	... 767	... 333	... —	1905	... 772	... 311	... 58					
1899	... 724	... 362	... —	1906	... 792	... 391	... 71					
1900	... 643	... 390	... 54	1907	... 726	... 321	... 68					
1901	... 564	... 272	... 39	1908	... 606	... 299	... 58					

\* Not stated prior to 1900.

The free import of straw plait is the life blood of Luton, where the hands which would otherwise be engaged in making the plait are occupied in turning imported plait into more highly finished articles.

### SLATES—Roofing.

		Imports.			British Exports.		
		£000	*Tons 000		£000	*Tons 000	
1895	... ...	72	... —	... ...	176	... —	
1897	... ...	308	... —	... ...	209	... —	
1899	... ...	338	... —	... ...	187	... —	
1900	... ...	246	... —	... ...	148	... —	
1901	... ...	273	... —	... ...	123	... —	
1902	... ...	286	... 75	... ...	147	... 35	
1903	... ...	467	... 120	... ...	129	... 29	
1904	... ...	340	... 87	... ...	131	... 29	
1905	... ...	263	... 70	... ...	112	... 25	
1906	... ...	152	... 41	... ...	117	... 27	
1907	... ...	131	... 38	... ...	124	... 29	
1908	... ...	101	... 31	... ...	91	... 21	

\* Not given prior to 1902.

The labour troubles in Penrhyn led to the increased importation of foreign slates; but builders have learned by experience that the imported article cannot resist frost and rain to the same extent as the British, and this fact, coupled with the use of tiles for roofing, has helped to diminish imports in recent years.

## SOAPS AND SOAP POWDER.

	*Imports £000	*Re- exports. £000	*British Exports. £000		*Imports £000	*Re- exports. £000	*British Exports. £000	
					1897	1898	1899	1900
1897	... 187	... —	... 762		1903	... 499	... 19	... 1,145
1898	... 217	—	... 830		1904	... 439	... 18	... 1,209
1899	... 286	—	... 942		1905	... 500	... 18	... 1,285
1900	... 245	... 18	... 940		1906	... 468	... 19	... 1,298
1901	... 316	... 17	... 1,000		1907	... 545	... 23	... 1,427
1902	... 429	... 19	... 1,126		1908	... 510	... 22	... 1,398

\* Prior to 1906 soap stock was included in these figures.

† Not stated separately prior to 1900.

Exports to all parts of the world are generally increasing, the United States being our best market.

## STONES, SLABS, and MARBLES. (See also Granite.)

	Imports.		Re-exports.		*British Exports.	
	£000	000 Tons	£000	000 Tons	£000	000 Tons
1895	... 681	... 575	... 40	... 4	... 142	... 26
1896	... 828	... 673	... 41	... 5	... 156	... 40
1897	... 918	... 740	... 42	... 6	... 116	... 24
1898	... 1,036	... 870	... 36	... 6	... 121	... 27
1899	... 1,105	... 891	... 40	... 5	... 123	... 30
1900	... 1,133	... 946	... 48	... 7	... 154	... 36
1901	... 1,362	... 1,141	... 44	... 5	... 160	... 47
1902	... 1,376	... 1,173	... 47	... 6	... 182	... 51
1903	... 1,402	... 1,201	... 46	... 6	... 213	... 56
1904	... 1,450	... 1,309	... 52	... 7	... 198	... 48
1905	... 1,296	... 1,199	... 39	... 5	... 217	... 57
1906	... 1,332	... 1,225	... 50	... 8	... 217	... 50
1907	... 1,261	... 1,201	... 49	... 9	... 228	... 52
1908	... 1,219	... 1,222	... 48	... 8	... 222	... 55

\* Including grindstones, millstones, &c.

There is no available analysis of our stone imports till 1908, and they were all classed together in our Board of Trade returns under the heading "Stone, Slabs and Marble, Rough Hewn or Manufactured, other than works of art." In 1908, however, our imports under these headings are divided as follows :—

	Tons.	£		Tons.	£
Oil Shale ...	4,528	12,107	Sandstone ...	43	763
Lime Stone ...	2,515	34,996	All others ...	1,214,526	1,171,443

It will be seen how negligible are our imports under the first three headings. Of "all other" stones, 513,042 tons, valued at £275,357, come from the Channel Islands and British Possessions, and these are mostly products which compete with similar British stone, but which Tariff Reformers would encourage with a preference. From Sweden, Norway, Holland, Belgium, and France come 618,506 tons of stone, valued at £542,550 (or less than £1

per ton), which also in a sense compete with British. From Portugal, Italy, Greece, Turkey, and all other countries come 82,974 tons of stone, valued at £353,536, or over £4 per ton. This includes to a very considerable extent marble, for statuary and other purposes, such as we do not produce ourselves, and the import of which cannot by any process of reasoning be held to "deprive our quarrymen of work and wages."

### **SUGAR—Refined.**

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000
1895 ...	9,410	... 95	... 574	1903 ...	9,967	... 27
1897 ...	9,728	... 135	... 475	1904 ...	10,789	... 17
1899 ...	11,190	... 119	... 396	1905 ...	10,913	... 20
1900 ...	12,339	... 119	... 382	1906 ...	10,461	... 21
1901 ...	12,949	... 49	... 351	1907 ...	11,802	... 13
1902 ...	9,693	... 29	... 399	1908 ...	12,186	... 13

### **Sugar—Unrefined.**

	Imports.		Re-exports.		Imports.		Re-exports.	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895 ...	8,275	..	123	..	1903 ...	5,495	..	31
1897 ...	6,223	..	214	..	1904 ...	7,462	..	57
1899 ...	6,870	..	136	..	1905 ...	8,559	..	73
1900 ...	6,917	..	165	..	1906 ...	6,835	..	83
1901 ...	6,378	..	75	..	1907 ...	7,332	..	42
1902 ...	5,039	..	45	..	1908 ...	7,818	..	230

### **TINNED PLATES.** (*See under Iron and Steel.*)

### **TOBACCO.** (*See p. 9.*)

### **Tobacco—Manufactured.**

	Re-			Re-		
	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	Imports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000
1895 ...	1,256	... 155	... 257	1903 ...	1,685	... 142
1897 ...	1,721	... 175	... 413	1904 ...	1,565	... 110
1899 ...	1,947	... 144	... 472	1905 ...	1,486	... 108
1900 ...	1,864	... 231	... 579	1906 ...	1,628	... 84
1901 ...	2,081	... 265	... 751	1907 ...	1,143	... 81
1902 ...	1,900	... 202	... 707	1908 ...	1,303	... 73

### **Tobacco—Unmanufactured.**

	Imports.		Re-exports.		Imports.		Re-exports.	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1895 ...	2,098	... 177	1903 ...	2,505	..	179		
1897 ...	2,346	... 162	1904 ...	2,946	..	135		
1899 ...	3,563	... 142	1905 ...	2,236	..	113		
1900 ...	2,935	... 166	1906 ...	3,091	..	138		
1901 ...	2,664	... 160	1907 ...	3,073	..	136		
1902 ...	3,892	... 236	1908 ...	3,864	..	150		

## TOYS and GAMES.

	Re- Imports. British Exports. £000			Re- Imports. British Exports. £000			
	exports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000	exports. £000	Exports. £000	Exports. £000	
1895	... 998	... 55	—	1903	... 1,234	... 65	... 429
1897	... 1,069	... 69	245	1904	... 1,102	... 67	... 440
1899	... 1,185	... 50	295	1905	... 1,180	... 83	... 455
1900	... 1,188	... 54	352	1906	... 1,232	... 60	... 479
1901	... 1,233	... 60	368	1907	... 1,279	... 70	... 534
1902	... 1,240	... 51	452	1908	... 1,208	... 72	... 532

Imports mainly consist of popular metal toys from Germany (£696,000 in 1908).

## TRADE "PER HEAD."

(From Cd. 5,954 of 1909.)

The following are the values, "per head" of population of the four countries named, of the net imports (for home consumption) of All Articles and Manufactures respectively, and of Exports (domestic) of All Articles and Manufactures respectively in quinquennial periods since 1880:—

	IMPORTS.			
	U.K. £ s. d.	France. £ s. d.	Germany. £ s. d.	U.S.A. £ s. d.
1880-84	... ... 9 15 3	... 5 1 2	... 3 7 2	... 2 13 4
1885-89	... ... 8 14 2	... 4 6 10	... 3 7 7	... 2 7 6
1890-94	... ... 9 7 1	... 4 8 0	... 3 18 10	... 2 10 0
1895-99	... ... 9 16 5	... 4 4 8	... 4 6 6	... 2 0 8
1900-04	... ... 11 2 2	... 4 13 3	... 4 19 0	... 2 7 1
1905-08	... ... 11 16 8	... 5 13 6	... 6 5 5	... 2 19 7
MANUFACTURED IMPORTS.				
1880-84	... ... 1 16 9	... 0 14 11	... 0 18 11	... 1 5 1
1885-89	... ... 1 16 6	... 0 12 5	... 0 18 3	... 1 1 9
1890-94	... ... 1 19 8	... 0 12 10	... 0 17 5	... 1 0 5
1895-99	... ... 2 7 2	... 0 13 0	... 0 18 3	... 0 16 3
1900-04	... ... 2 14 1	... 0 16 7	... 0 19 8	... 0 19 11
1905-08	... ... 2 16 11	... 1 1 2	... 1 5 2	... 1 5 8
EXPORTS.				
1880-84	... ... 6 13 2	... 3 13 4	... 3 7 8	... 3 3 0
1885-89	... ... 6 3 8	... 3 9 2	... 3 3 10	... 2 9 10
1890-94	... ... 6 2 10	... 3 11 4	... 3 0 5	... 2 16 9
1895-99	... ... 5 18 11	... 3 14 8	... 3 7 5	... 2 19 5
1900-04	... ... 6 14 9	... 4 6 4	... 4 1 3	... 3 14 0
1905-08	... ... 8 7 11	... 5 5 11	... 5 0 8	... 4 4 5
MANUFACTURED EXPORTS.				
1880-84	... ... 5 17 3	... 1 18 9	... 2 0 4	... 0 11 8
1885-89	... ... 5 7 7	... 1 16 7	... 2 1 5	... 0 10 10
1890-94	... ... 5 4 5	... 1 18 4	... 1 19 1	... 0 11 11
1895-99	... ... 4 19 10	... 2 1 2	... 2 3 5	... 0 17 2
1900-04	... ... 5 7 1	... 2 8 5	... 2 13 2	... 1 5 3
1905-08	... ... 6 14 4	... 3 1 10	... 3 9 0	... 1 14 2

## TRANSHIPMENTS.

Besides our imports, exports and re-exports there is another branch of our trade in which our shipping plays a useful part, but

the value of which is not included in the figures of our foreign trade. It consists of imported dutiable articles which are afterwards sent abroad *out of bond*. They differ from re-exported goods in that the latter are actually received into the country, and are thence sent abroad to foreign purchasers (see Re-exports). The value of goods transhipped at our ports is as follows in recent years :—

	£000		£000
1898 .....	9,793	1904 .....	13,667
1899 .....	10,787	1905 .....	14,318
1900 .....	11,017	1906 .....	16,312
1901 .....	12,834	1907 .....	18,824
1902 .....	13,683	1908 .....	15,969
1903 .....	14,138		

As the greater portion of these goods is carried to and from our ports in British ships, their value to our shipping industry is considerable.

## TYPEWRITERS.

There are no details from foreign trade except in 1908, when we imported £382,817 worth, re-exported £155,453 worth, and exported £18,130 worth of typewriters and parts thereof.

## UNEMPLOYMENT.

The pretence of Tariff Reformers that Tariff Reform “means” the solution of our unemployment problem is one of the most unwholesome features of their whole propaganda. The causes of unemployment are not so much economic as social ; and they can no more be removed by a schedule of tariffs than can illness or immorality and those who do not know it ought to know it.

The promise that Tariff Reform “means” “work for all” or “more work” is usually supported nowadays by an appeal to German official figures of unemployment. The United States used to be a favourite object lesson till the end of 1907 found that country burdened with an out-of-work population estimated at certainly not less than two millions, and probably as many as four millions. Even at the end of 1908, when the Presidential election took place, Mr. Roosevelt is reported to have estimated that 15 per cent. of those whose votes were being wooed by the candidates were out of work. The extent of unemployment in the United States at that time was too formidable to be ignored even by Tariff Reform propagandists, and they made up for the loss of one of their object lessons by redoubling the vehemence of their appeals to Germany.

The absence of really reliable official statistics of unemployment, a failing which is common to every country (including as we shall show, our own) renders it impossible to institute anything like a comprehensive comparison between the actual amount

of unemployment in this country and abroad. Besides our own, the only statistics of any sort available appear to be issued in Germany, France, Norway, Belgium, Holland, and in two or three of the United States. In no two cases are the available statistics compiled on a similar basis, and, therefore, they are useless and misleading for purposes of comparison. On only one point are they really instructive—namely, that in *all* protected communities unemployment is officially stated to be found, at one time greater, at another less; and to that extent they may be quoted in reply to the Tariff Reformers' contention that their nostrum, which *is* Protection, no matter what alias they may choose to call it, can solve the unemployment question.

It is unnecessary, and would have no useful result, to discuss the method of calculating unemployment statistics in most of the countries named. In two cases only the method of obtaining the "official" figure is, to a certain extent, similar to that adopted by the Board of Trade in obtaining the percentage figures which they publish each month—namely, in the case of Germany and New York State; and to those we shall refer. In neither case, however, is the official figure comparable with our own. The real extent of unemployment, both in Germany and America, is rather to be judged from Consular reports and statements in the Press of those countries than from any such figures.

As for the Tariff Reformers' promise of "work for all," it need only be remarked that it is not endorsed by the thinking men amongst themselves. Several from amongst their most prominent adherents have on occasion—generally in debate in the House of Commons—openly, if mildly, repudiated the legitimacy of any such claim for any conceivable fiscal system. It is unfortunate, however, that even the most prominent Tariff Reformers have contented themselves with merely washing their hands of any personal responsibility for the diffusion of promises, now made from the platforms and at the street corners all over the country, that a vote for Tariff Reform "means" a vote for "more work" for everyone. While certain of our great Press organs unblushingly assist in the dishonest and unscrupulous process of misleading the less intelligent or more needy amongst the community, unrebuted by those in authority, the seeds are being sown which will assuredly produce a harvest of disillusionment, disappointment, and reaction, if ever the country, "deceived by misrepresentation," should decide to try the "strange remedy" of Protection.

### Unemployment—British Returns.

The percentage of unemployment amongst our trade unionists, which is published monthly by our Board of Trade, has recently reached a very high figure. There is a considerable want of knowledge on the part of the man in the street as to how these figures

are obtained. The basis of the calculation is the Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department of the Board of Trade by trade unions which pay unemployed benefits to members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick, or superannuated, are excluded. In September last, for instance, the Trade Unions Returns related to 695,720 members of various trade unions engaged in building, shipbuilding, engineering, coal mining, "other metal trades," textiles, printing, wood-working, &c. Besides these, reports were received from employers relating to 1,123,087 workpeople engaged in the coal and iron, mining, and textile trades, in the building trade, and in the boot and shoe and clothing trades. But the returns relating to these workers are not presented in a form which would enable the Board of Trade to indicate the net *number* of unemployed amongst them, or to include the figure with that of the unemployed amongst the 695,720 above mentioned.

In the second Fiscal Blue Book the difficulties which prevent a really exhaustive estimate of the amount of employment amongst the 12 million or so wage-earners in the country are thus set out : "A large number of trade unions in the engineering, shipbuilding, metal, printing, wood-working, building, and other trades, make weekly payments of various amounts to their unemployed members. Consequently they are bound to keep a strictly accurate record of the persons entitled to such benefit, and many of them are also able to say how many members are still unemployed after having exhausted their claim to unemployed benefit. It is true that the membership of the trade unions which keep these records includes but a comparatively small minority of the total industrial population, but it forms, as a whole, a sufficiently representative sample of that population to justify the conclusion that changes in the state of employment for the workpeople included reflect corresponding changes in the state of employment as a whole. It is to be remembered that we are now concerned with *comparative* figures and tendencies only. It is not suggested that when 5 per cent. of trade union members are returned as unemployed we are at liberty to conclude that just 5 per cent. of the whole working population of the United Kingdom are out of work. For, among other considerations, the groups of trades which include the great bulk of members of the trade unions which insure their members against want of work are probably the groups of trades in which the liability to fluctuations is above the average of skilled occupations as a whole. Thus the engineering, metal, and shipbuilding group, which are notoriously fluctuating industries, are over-represented in the trade union statistics of unemployed, while such comparatively stable industries as agriculture and railway servants are scarcely represented at all. On the other hand, unskilled casual labour is insufficiently represented in the returns, which mainly apply to skilled workmen."

It is specifically stated here that the engineering, metal, and

shipbuilding trades are over-represented in the Board of Trade Returns of unemployment, and it is apparent to every student of statistics that the oscillations of unemployment therein are much greater than in the other trades included. According to Professor Chapman, "this is probably to be explained largely by the fact that these trades are chiefly devoted to the creation of instruments of production and transport. An unusually high proportion of the demands for these commodities is concentrated in the periods of active trade, instruments being comparatively lasting and enlarged demands for goods generally meaning enlarged demand for instruments."—"Work and Wages," p. 398.)

It is an undeniable fact that in times of depression in the shipbuilding and engineering trades, aggravated as they recently were by strikes and lock-outs, the percentage of unemployed in these industries not only does not in any degree represent the general rate of unemployment in the country, but its inclusion in the returns with the percentage of unemployment of the trades less liable to fluctuation tends to drag up the percentage of unemployment in all industries to an undue degree. As proof of this statement, let us analyse the figures of unemployment in our trade unions which made returns during September, 1909 (though those of any month would suit the purpose of our argument), differentiating between the figures of trade unions making returns which represent (1) the two industries specified and (2) other industries.

TRADE UNIONISTS UNEMPLOYED IN SEPTEMBER, 1909.

	Members included in returns.			Percentage Unemployed.	Number Unemployed.
Engineering	...	...	...	10·8	18,508
Shipbuilding	...	...	...	22·4	12,831
All other	...	...	...	4·4	20,410
				7·4	51,749

This calculation shows that the unemployed percentage of trade unionists in the returns other than those engaged in the industries under consideration was only 4·4 per cent. in the month specified, whereas the general rate was 7·4 per cent. Omitting the same trades from the calculation of the general rate, the following are the percentages of unemployment in "all other trades" in recent years. (Cd. 4,954, p. 223) :—

Year.	Per cent.	Year.	Per cent.	Year.	Per cent.	Year.	Per cent.
1893	4·0	1897	2·1	1901	2·9	1905	3·9
1894	3·2	1898	1·9	1902	2·9	1906	3·3
1895	3·8	1899	1·7	1903	3·4	1907	3·0
1896	2·5	1900	2·3	1904	4·4	1908	4·8

The fluctuation between the above maximum and minimum rates is by no means so great as to cause serious anxiety regarding the general stability of employment in British Industry.

## Unemployment—British Statistics.

The following tables give particulars of unemployment amongst Trade Unionists in this country since 1860:—

**COMPUTED AVERAGE PERCENTAGE OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS RETURNED AS OUT OF WORK AT THE END OF EACH MONTH IN THE YEARS 1860-1908.**

Year.	Percentage Un- employed.	Year.	Percentage Un- employed.	Year.	Percentage Un- employed.	Year.	Percentage Un- employed.
1860	1·85	1872	0·95	1884	7·15	1896	3·35
1861	3·70	1873	1·15	1885	8·55	1897	3·45
1862	6·05	1874	1·60	1886	9·55	1898	2·95
1863	4·70	1875	2·20	1887	7·15	1899	2·05
1864	1·95	1876	3·40	1888	4·15	1900	2·45
1865	1·80	1877	4·40	1889	2·05	1901	3·35
1866	2·65	1878	6·25	1890	2·10	1902	4·20
1867	6·30	1879	10·70	1891	3·40	1903	5·00
1868	6·75	1880	5·25	1892	6·20	1904	6·40
1869	5·95	1881	3·55	1893	7·70	1905	5·25
1870	3·75	1882	2·35	1894	7·20	1906	3·70
1871	1·65	1883	2·60	1895	6·00	1907	3·95
						1908	8·65

The rate of unemployment amongst Trade Unionists in each month since 1901 has been as follows:—

Months.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
January ..	Per cent.								
January ..	4·0	4·4	5·1	6·6	6·3	4·3	3·9	5·8	8·7
February ..	3·9	4·3	4·8	6·1	5·7	4·1	3·5	6·0	8·4
March ..	3·6	3·7	4·3	6·0	5·2	3·4	3·2	6·4	8·2
April ..	3·8	3·9	4·1	6·0	5·2	3·2	2·8	7·1	8·2
May ..	3·6	4·0	4·0	6·3	4·7	3·1	3·0	7·4	7·9
June ..	3·5	4·2	4·5	5·9	4·8	3·2	3·1	7·9	7·9
July ..	3·4	4·0	4·9	6·1	4·7	3·1	3·2	7·9	7·9
August ..	3·9	4·5	5·5	6·4	4·9	3·3	3·6	8·5	7·7
September ..	3·7	5·0	5·8	6·8	4·8	3·3	4·1	9·3	7·4
October ..	3·7	5·0	5·8	6·8	4·6	3·9	4·2	9·5	7·1
November ..	3·8	4·8	6·0	7·0	4·3	4·0	4·5	8·7	
December ..	4·6	5·5	6·7	7·6	4·5	4·4	5·6	9·1	

It is an agreeable sign of better times that after July, 1909, the rate of unemployment *decreased*, whereas in the same period of every other year in the above table there was an *increase* in the rate.

## Unemployment and Manufactured Imports.

It is asserted by Tariff Reformers that our manufactured imports especially are responsible for throwing our workers out of employment, and they promise to diminish those imports by taxing them. Their claim is baseless. As the Fourteen Professors whose opposition to Mr. Chamberlain has rankled so deeply in Tariff Reformers' breasts said in their Manifesto against his proposals :—

“ It is not true than an increase of imports involves the diminished employment of workmen in the importing country. The statement is universally rejected by those who have thought about the subject, and is completely refuted by experience.”

In the *Economic Journal* of March, 1908, there appeared an article by a well-known statistician who, having compared the figures of our imports of manufactured goods with the official percentages of unemployment in this country since 1860, arrived at this conclusion :—

“ When the imports of manufactured goods tend to increase, then not only is there a larger percentage of skilled workmen not unemployed, but the rate of change from non-employment to employment is greater; or a greater importation of manufactured articles is accompanied by a higher rate of employment, and a fall in these imports marks increased want of employment.”

Putting this finding to the test, it will be seen that our net imports of manufactures, in millions of pounds, and the percentages of unemployment respectively in recent years have been as follows :—1904, £115·8 millions, 6·4 per cent.; 1905, £121·4 millions, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent.; 1906, £130·3 millions, 3·7 per cent.; 1907, £127·9 millions, 3·9 per cent.; 1908, £119·8 millions, 8·7 per cent. Thus the considerable increases in such imports in 1905 and 1906 over those of 1904 accompanied a diminution in unemployment; while a diminution in imports since then has accompanied an increase in unemployment.

## Unemployment—German Statistics.

In a memorandum published by the Board of Trade, it is shown that the German official figures of unemployment are not fairly comparable with British official figures, for the following reasons :—

1. The qualification for official recognition as unemployed, for statistical purposes, is much narrower in Germany than in this country.

The Trade Union standard rates of wages do not prevail in Germany to the same extent as here: and consequently in bad times a Unionist, deprived of employment in his special branch of industry, not only may, but is expected to, get what work he can

in some secondary industry, such as agriculture, even at a lower scale of wages than his Union recognises. Herr Calwer, a great authority on German labour questions, has expressly stated that "in the vast majority of cases men are only allowed to claim benefit *when they find it impossible to obtain employment, even on rather unfavourable, or on altogether unfavourable, conditions.*" That is to say, a German Trade Unionist is not recognised as "unemployed" unless and until he has exhausted every effort to obtain work of some sort: and such efforts are facilitated to a remarkable degree by the operations of employment bureaux all over the country. The systematic system of carrying out public works in Germany at seasons when the labour market is congested also assists to minimise the number of unemployed. The above conditions have little or no counterpart in this country.

2. German Trade Union unemployment figures are a less complete index of general German unemployment than our Board of Trade figures are of general British unemployment.

German Trade Unions are of much more recent formation than ours, and contain fewer old men than ours,—an important consideration when we reflect that the risk of unemployment increases with age.

The British Trade Unions making returns of the unemployed include those of certain industries in which the fluctuations of employment are most violent. On the other hand, German figures include hardly any important groups in which the unemployment rate is subject to great fluctuations. The fact that the occupations represented in the German figures are relatively of altogether different weight from those represented in the British figures forbids a fair comparison between the two.

The practice of working short time during periods of industrial depression instead of dismissing hands obtains to a far greater extent in Germany than in this country. This "short time" is in effect a diminution in employment which cannot be allowed for in the returns.

3. German unemployment figures are a less complete record of unemployment in German Trade Unions than our Board of Trade figures are of unemployment in British Trade Unions.

It is impossible in any country to know whether or not a man is unemployed unless he reports himself as such to his Union. If he is not entitled to receive unemployed benefit, he is obviously not so likely to take the trouble to report himself as he would be if he had the prospect of reaping a pecuniary advantage from the act. Now, a man, even if officially recognisable as "unemployed," may not be qualified to receive out-of-work pay at the given time from his Union. He may not have been out of work, or a member of his Union, for the minimum time which his Union's rules lay down as the qualifying period; or he may have already received the maximum of pay permitted by his Union's rules. It is obvious

that, other things being equal, a Union in which a shorter period of unemployment or of membership qualifies for receipt of unemployed pay is likely to be able to record its unemployed, on a given day, more exhaustively than one with a higher period of qualification; as will also a Union which pays unemployment benefit for a longer time as compared with one whose benefit does not last so long. For instance, the German Metal Workers Union pays unemployed benefit for 10 weeks, the U.K. Amalgamated Society of Engineers for 52 weeks or more, the German Woodworkers Union for 6 weeks, and the U.K. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners 24 weeks.

Touching the question of period of membership, the German Trade Unions have recently been increasing their membership much faster than ours, so that at a given time a larger proportion of German members than of British must be disqualified from unemployed benefit, through not having belonged to the Unions long enough.

The Board of Trade Memorandum concludes as follows:—  
 “All these considerations suggest doubt as to the completeness of data from which the German records of unemployment have been computed, at all events in the past. Even were they complete, they could not be brought into direct comparison with the British figures. The movements of each set of figures over a period of time furnish an index, more or less complete, to the fluctuations of employment within the country concerned; but, however useful the comparison of the figures for each country at different times may be, the comparison of the figures for the two countries at the same time cannot, unfortunately, yield any trustworthy basis for comparing or contrasting the degrees of continuity of employment prevailing in these countries.”

### Unemployment—United States—Statistics.

The amount of statistical information concerning the unemployed in the United States is very small. Until quite recently the only State for which official statistics were available was that of New York. Very few of the New York Trade Unions pay out-of-work benefits to their members, and the unemployment statistics include all the members, whether receiving benefit or not, who are known to the officers of the Unions to be out of work, from no matter what cause.

Tariff Reformers object to the use of the New York official figures in the Fiscal Controversy, because they allege that those figures include those who are unemployed owing to all circumstances, whether it be want of work, bad weather, strikes, lock-outs, sickness, or accident, whereas ours only include unemployed owing to the first cause. This is true, but not all the truth. The New York Quarterly “Bulletin of the Department of

Labour" publishes statistics on this subject: but besides giving the total numbers and percentages of Trade Unionists unemployed from all the above causes, it now *analyses* those totals, specifying the amount of unemployment due to each separate cause. The Tariff Reformers who try to discount the New York figures never call attention to that fact; but it is really of considerable importance. Here, then, are the official figures showing the percentage of Trade Unionists in New York who were unemployed "owing to causes other than disputes and disability," i.e., to want of work, between July, 1907, and June, 1909:—

MONTH.		1907.	1908.	1909.
January ..	..	—	35·1	25·4
February ..	..	—	35·9	24·6
March ..	..	—	35·9	21·2
April ..	..	—	32·2	15·1
May ..	..	—	30·6	12·7
June ..	..	—	28·7	13·1
July ..	..	5·4	25·2	—
August ..	..	7·7	22·2	—
September ..	..	9·7	23·0	—
October ..	..	16·1	21·3	—
November ..	..	20·0	20·0	—
December ..	..	30·5	25·9	—

Even though these figures are not necessarily comparable with our official figures, that they indicate a great amount of unemployment in this wealthy State is undeniable.

For an actual indication of the general condition of unemployment in the United States in recent times, the evidence of the American Correspondent to the "Times" of October 2nd, 1908, is worth far more than the partial statistics available:—

"The total number of persons unemployed, entirely or in part, in the whole country, cannot now be less than from three to four millions. When to these are added more than half a million immigrants who have returned to their own countries within the past ten months, and thus withdrawn from both production and consumption, the reduced wages paid to many of those in work on whole or part time, and the lowered demands all along the line, it will be possible to obtain something like an adequate idea of the industrial conditions which now confront the people."

On September 12th, 1909, according to evidence given before a New York State Commission appointed to enquire into labour conditions, there were 200,000 in that State who were unable to secure employment.

**UNITED STATES—Foreign Trade. (See Living,  
Cost of: Shipping: Wages, Real.)**

Area, 3,571,000 square miles. Population in 1908, 87,189,000.

The following table gives, in millions of pounds, the foreign trade of the United States from 1855 to 1899 (fiscal years ending June 30th):—

Annual Average.	Imports.		Year.	Exports.	
	£Mil.	£Mil.		£Mil.	£Mil.
1855-9	59·1	52·8	1892	169·3	211·6
1860-4	54·8	42·9	1893	177·0	173·1
1865-9	72·9	45·4	1894	131·6	181·0
1870-4	113·2	96·1	1895	149·5	165·2
1875-9	96·2	124·7	1896	158·4	179·8
1880-4	140·1	165·4	1897	155·3	215·0
1885-9	139·3	146·2	1898	123·9	252·1
1890	161·8	176·1	1899	140·4	250·8
1891	173·4	181·7			

Since 1900 an analysis of U.S. Foreign Trade in millions of pounds is here given:—

Food.	TOTAL IMPORTS.				YEAR.	EXPORTS.					
	Raw Mat'rls.	Manu-factories.	Miscel-laneous.	TOTAL.		Food.	Raw Mat'rls.	Manu-factories.	Miscel-laneous.	TOTAL.	
48·1	57·5	70·3	1·1	177·0	1900	113·6	67·8	101·0	3·1	285·5	
49·1	51·7	69·4	1·3	171·5	1901	121·4	82·9	97·0	2·9	304·2	
45·0	63·1	78·9	1·2	188·2	1902	107·0	77·8	94·6	3·0	282·4	
49·1	68·9	94·5	1·2	213·7	1903	106·0	85·1	97·4	1·5	290·0	
52·3	66·8	86·0	1·4	206·5	1904	92·6	96·2	109·1	1·1	299·0	
60·7	81·1	89·6	1·4	232·8	1905	83·6	98·5	127·4	1·3	310·8	
57·2	86·4	110·0	1·9	255·5	1906	109·3	104·3	142·9	1·4	357·9	
64·2	99·5	132·9	2·2	298·8	1907	106·9	123·6	154·2	1·5	386·2	
61·0	75·7	110·0	2·1	248·8	1908	108·5	116·0	156·4	1·3	382·2	
68·5	94·4	108·4	2·0	273·3	1909	91·3	108·5	139·9	1·6	341·3	

## United States—Trade with United Kingdom.

The following table shows British imports from and exports to the United States of (A) manufactures, (B) all goods, from 1890 to 1902, and a more detailed analysis of same since 1904 :—

IMPORTS.		YEAR.	BRITISH EXPORTS.	
Manufactures.	All Goods.		Manufactures.	All Goods.
£000	£000		£000	£000
10,280	97,233	1890	29,089	32,068
10,618	104,409	1891	24,795	27,545
10,301	108,186	1892	23,864	26,547
11,341	91,784	1893	21,087	23,957
10,814	89,607	1894	16,464	18,800
10,552	86,549	1895	24,985	27,949
13,672	106,347	1896	18,129	20,424
14,247	113,042	1897	17,662	20,995
17,552	126,062	1898	12,544	14,716
19,293	120,081	1899	15,213	18,119
21,317	138,789	1900	16,499	19,561
20,018	141,015	1901	15,275	18,279
20,931	126,962	1902	19,468	23,760

IMPORTS (CONSIGNMENTS).						
		1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Food, &c.	...	45,033	46,289	58,297	53,006	51,973
Raw materials	...	51,432	49,960	52,022	60,827	52,253
Manufactures	...	19,624	18,123	20,522	20,272	19,377
Miscellaneous	...	287	298	213	242	298
<b>Total</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>116,376</b>	<b>114,670</b>	<b>131,054</b>	<b>134,347</b>	<b>123,901</b>

EXPORTS (CONSIGNMENTS).						
		1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Food, &c.	...	1,474	1,560	1,787	1,881	1,761
Raw materials	...	3,114	3,676	3,709	3,772	2,962
Manufactures	...	15,272	18,386	22,086	25,087	16,427
Miscellaneous	...	338	294	183	179	154
<b>Total</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>20,198</b>	<b>23,916</b>	<b>27,765</b>	<b>30,919</b>	<b>21,304</b>

The excess of our imports from the States over exports of British goods thereto is not quite so vast, however, as the above figures seem to show, for we re-export to them Foreign and Colonial goods approximately equal in value to that of our own products. This reduces our apparent "excess of imports" of goods by about £20 to £25 millions annually.

The enormous excess of imports resulting from our trade with the United States, which accounts for about half of our total excess, puzzles many students of the fiscal question. The suggestion that it is possibly liquidated in gold is exploded when we find that, taking one year with another, we receive more bullion and coin from the States than we export thither. Between 1894 and 1908, for instance, our total imports of precious metal from the States amounted to £171 millions, our exports to the States to £69½ millions, showing an excess import amounting to over £100 millions during that period. But the explanation is simple. In the first place, we have some £500 millions of capital invested in the States, for the interest on which we import goods. Secondly, British ships carry not far from 60 per cent. of their total sea-borne trade, and we import in goods the enormous payment for freights and insurance earned by this service. Again, the large number of Americans who visit our shores, either on holiday or to take up their more or less permanent residence here, draw on their native land for their expenses on this side, and these again come to us in goods. It has been estimated by a competent authority that this last item runs to at least £40 or £50 millions annually. A smaller item includes goods representing money sent home by settlers in the States to relatives in the old country. Part of the sum is, no doubt, due to liquidation by the States of liabilities due by them to other countries. Whatever may be the amount of the "excess" which may be accounted for by each of the above considerations, of one fact there is no doubt. Every pennyworth of goods which we receive from the States is earned by present or past services of British hands or brains, and to suggest in explanation of that excess that we are rapidly immersing ourselves in a flood of liabilities or are withdrawing our capital from that country is quite untenable.

## VEGETABLES—Fresh.

The following are the values of our imports of vegetables in 1908 :—

Onions ... ... ...	£ 993,669	Tomatoes ... ... ...	955,985
Potatoes ... ... ...	1,967,216	Others ... ... ...	371,209
			£4,288,079

As in the case of fruit, our imports of vegetables rather supplement than compete with our home produce, and enable our consumers to purchase supplies which they would be debarred from obtaining if such imports were restricted, besides supplying our market at a time when the home grower has nothing to sell.

## WAGES—British. (Cd. 4,713 of 1909.)

Since the year 1896 the Board of Trade has annually published statistics dealing with changes in the *rates of wages* paid to some million of our workers in various industries, excluding however agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants. These figures are based on the changes which have taken place in the hourly or weekly wages of different classes of workers. They do not represent changes in actual earnings : for they do not take into consideration the state of employment. It is pointed out, however, that changes in rates of wages in the long run are a good indication of changes in actual earnings, though in times of industrial depression they tend to be higher than earnings, while in good years they may fall below them.

At the end of 1907 the rates of wages in the industries covered by the returns were higher than they had ever been since statistics on the subject were first prepared ; and, though there was a drop due to the commercial depression of 1908, at the end of 1908 wages were still higher than in any year excepting 1907. The following table gives the changes in the weekly wages of those included in the return between 1896 and the end of 1908 :—

GROUPS OF TRADES.	Net Amount of Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Weekly Wages.				Net Amount of Increase (+) or Decrease (—) 1896-1908.
	Period of Rising Wages. 1896-1900.	Period of Falling Wages. 1901-05.	Period of Rising Wages. 1906-07.	Year 1908.	
Building Trades ...	+ 38,993	+ 1,251	+ 75	+ 226	+ 40,545
Coal Mining ... ...	+ 273,125	— 208,206	+ 200,801	— 47,085	+ 218,635
Other Mining (Iron, &c.) ... ...	+ 7,129	— 5,585	+ 4,098	— 2,936	+ 2,706
Quarrying... ... ...	+ 1,433	— 1,458	+ 7	— 290	— 308
Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture	+ 32,192	— 20,841	+ 11,986	— 9,656	+ 13,681
Engineering & Ship-building Trades	+ 39,061	— 10,707	+ 11,105	— 4,050	+ 35,409
Other Metal Trades	+ 7,255	— 1,212	+ 325	— 207	+ 6,161
Textile Trades ...	+ 11,845	+ 10,256	+ 24,503	+ 1,132	+ 47,736
Clothing Trades ...	+ 1,554	+ 937	+ 1,238	+ 149	+ 3,878
Printing, &c. Trades	+ 676	+ 1,639	+ 838	+ 956	+ 4,109
Glass, Bricks, &c. Trades... ... ...	+ 3,977	— 1,550	+ 597	+ 208	+ 3,232
Other Trades ... ...	+ 13,410	+ 631	+ 1,011	— 368	+ 14,684
Employees of Public Authorities ... ...	+ 6,993	+ 5,937	+ 2,225	+ 2,750	+ 17,905
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>+ 437,643</b>	<b>— 228,908</b>	<b>+ 258,809</b>	<b>— 59,171</b>	<b>+ 408,373</b>

In every trade represented, therefore, except quarrying, the rate of wages is higher than in 1896. In 1906 the actual increase

in the wages bills over those of 1905, due to the changes in rates of wages, is estimated by the Board of Trade as £1,419,000. In 1907 there was a further increase of £5,821,000; while the decrease last year was £873,800. The coal mining figures are an important factor in the above tables, more than half the total net increase since 1896 being thus accounted for.

The increases in wages in certain industries in the United Kingdom between 1880 and 1908 are here given:—

Building trades	...	...	...	...	...	17 per cent.
Coal mining	...	...	...	...	...	52 per cent.
Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	15 per cent.
Textiles	...	...	...	...	...	22 per cent.
Agriculture	...	...	...	...	...	10 per cent.
General, including agriculture	...	...	...	...	...	22 per cent.
General, excluding agriculture	...	...	...	...	...	24 per cent.

The above figures show that money wages in this country have increased very considerably of recent years.

## Wages—Comparative Figures.

The following table, compiled from figures given in the Board of Trade Reports on Cost of Living in the countries named, compares the predominant range of weekly wages in certain occupations in England and Wales with the ranges in the same occupations in Germany and France. The ranges in England and Wales represent in all cases standard *time-rates* for an ordinary full week, exclusive of overtime; the German and French figures are in some cases standard rates, and in others the predominant range of *earnings* in a similar week:—

OCCUPATION.	PREDOMINANT RANGE OF WEEKLY WAGES AT OCTOBER, 1905.															
	England and Wales.				Germany.				France.							
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.				
<b>BUILDING.</b>																
Bricklayers ..	..	37	6	to	40	6	{	26	11	to	31	3				
Masons ..	..	37	2	„	39	4		11	„	31	3	21	7	to	28	10
Carpenters ..	..	36	2	„	39	4	26	11	„	31	3	24	0	„	30	3
Joiners ..	..	36	2	„	39	4		—				23	9	„	26	5
Plumbers ..	..	35	4	„	39	9	24	0	„	28	6	24	0	„	28	10
Plasterers ..	..	36	6	„	41	8		—				23	9	„	29	0
Painters ..	..	31	6	„	37	6	24	0	„	29	8	21	5	„	25	5
Labourers ..	..	23	6	„	27	0	19	6	„	24	0	15	10	„	19	10
<b>ENGINEERING.</b>																
Fitters ..	..	32	0	„	36	0	26	0	„	32	0	24	0	„	28	10
Turners ..	..	32	0	„	36	0	27	0	„	33	0	24	0	„	30	6
Smiths ..	..	32	0	„	36	0	28	6	„	33	0	25	2	„	31	9
Patternmakers ..	..	34	0	„	38	0	25	6	„	30	0	25	6	„	29	9
Labourers ..	..	18	0	„	22	0	18	0	„	22	0	15	7	„	19	2
<b>PRINTING.</b>																
Compositors ..	..	28	0	„	33	0	24	9	„	25	11	22	10	„	28	10

From the above it appears that for skilled men in the *building trades* the French wages were about 68 per cent. and the German wages about 75 per cent. of the English; for skilled men in the *engineering trades* 81 per cent. and 85 per cent. respectively. *Building trades labourers* in France earn about 71 per cent. and in Germany about 86 per cent. of the corresponding class in England. In the lowest paid class of all—*engineering labourers*—the French earnings were 87 per cent. of those of England and Germany, which are practically the same. Considering as a whole the three groups of occupations comprised in the comparison, *the wages in France were 75, and in Germany 83 per cent. of those in England and Wales.*

### Wages—United States. (See Wages, Real.)

Details of the cost of living of the working-classes such as the Board of Trade has published for France and Germany are unfortunately not available in the case of the United States, and we are thrown back on less concise information from American sources.

Certain statistics given in the “Report of the New York Bulletin of Labour,” which purport to set forth the average half-yearly earnings of labourers in forty-six organised trades in 1907, have given Tariff Reform propagandists great satisfaction. They point with glee to the fact that “the Americans’ earnings for six months are in many cases more than those of British workers for a full year.” The complete list is too long to reproduce ; but it may be mentioned that the two *highest* rates of earnings for the half-year given therein are those of “Drivers (locomotive), £148 3s. 5d.,” and “Railway Guards, £133 15s. 7d.” ; and the lowest, “Boot and Shoe Makers, £69 4s.,” and “Cigar Makers, £62 5s. 4d.” No doubt the fact that a New York engine-driver can earn nearly £300 in a year is rather a striking one to quote on a platform in this country ; but the suggestion that Protection is the cause, and that it would have the same result in this country, is rather deprived of its attractiveness when one notes that engine-drivers and guards are both engaged in unprotected industries, while the two lowest paid on the list are highly protected.

A consideration of the question of real wages in New York further discounts these big figures of money wages. This point was considered by Mr. Maurice Low, the “Morning Post” Washington correspondent, in an article published by that paper on July 28th, 1909, in which he dealt with the results of an investigation made by Mrs. Louis More into “Wage-Earners’ Budgets in New York State.” This lady systematically examined into the social conditions of 200 wage-earners’ families, varying from the very poor to the well-to-do, most of whom were personally known to herself. The average income for these 200 families was

£170 1s. 1½d., and the average family expenditures for different purposes in one year worked out as follows :—

	£ s. d.	
Food ... ...	72 1 8	: or 43·4 per cent. of total.
Rent ... ...	32 1 10½	: or 19·4 „ „ „ „
Clothing ...	17 2 10½	: or 10·6 „ „ „ „
Light and Fuel ...	8 2 0½	: or 5·1 „ „ „ „
Insurance ...	6 10 11½	: or 3·9 „ „ „ „
Sundries ... ...	29 1 11	: or 17·6 „ „ „ „

Leaving an average surplus of income over expenditure of less than £5.

The investigator thus comments on her findings : "The small surplus shows that a family of this character is constantly on the verge of dependence—if not on a charitable society, then on their relatives and friends—in case of any long period of unemployment or industrial depression. One hundred and fifty-three out of the 200 families had a deficit or just came out even at the end of the year. Most families live from week to week." She mentions that 23 of the families whose incomes were less than £150 a year were underfed, poorly clad, and usually wretchedly housed. A well-nourished family of five needs at least 24s. per week for food ; and a fair living wage for a working-man's family of average size must be a minimum of 56s. per week all the year round.

## WAGES—"REAL."

It is obvious that when the cost of living in a country increases faster than the rate of wages, the wage-earner is becoming worse off, and when wages increase faster than the cost of living he is becoming better off. Even if wages fall, and the cost of living falls even more, he is better off. The consideration, therefore, of the increase or decrease in "real wages"—by which is meant the amount of necessaries and luxuries which a wage-earner is able to obtain for his money wages—is far more important than that of his actual money wages.

Free Traders claim that, though money wages may not necessarily increase so fast under Free Trade as under Protection, the cost of living is kept lower in a Free Trade than in a protected country—that is to say, under Free Trade "real wages" increase faster than they do under Protection. We shall show, for instance, that Real wages, as measured by food prices, tend to increase to a greater extent in this country than in Germany or the United States. It is proposed to consider the question for the period between 1900 and 1907.

## United States.

The 74th Bulletin of the U.S. Bureau of Labour shows that the purchasing power, measured by retail prices of food, of full-time weekly earnings per employee in the mechanical and manu-

facturing industries of the United States, if represented by the figure 98·6 in 1890 (the year of the McKinley Tariff), would have been represented by the figure 101·5 in the year 1907, which is the last year for which statistics are available. In other words, the value of Real Wages, measured as above, increased from 100 in 1890 to 102·9 in 1907 ; that is to say, *the increase in Real Wages in the United States under high Protection between 1890 and 1907 was only 2·9 per cent.* Money wages increased 21 per cent. and food prices 18 per cent. during that period.

## Germany.

Consul-General Schwabach, in his report on the trade of Berlin in 1907, states that, "Although the more important necessaries of life rose in price (in 1907), still the increase in the scale of wages is higher by comparison—that is to say, the average annual wage of a workman in Germany has risen between 37 to 38 per cent. during the last seventeen years, whilst the ratio of the price of commodities has risen at the utmost 25 per cent." Seventeen years from 1907 brings us back to 1890, the date which we took in considering the figures for the States. Thus Real Wages in Germany, measured as above, *increased between 1890 and 1907 about 10 per cent.*

Though we are only counting the cost of food, the following statement of Consul-General Oppenheimer, of Frankfort, in his report for 1908, may be noted. Dealing with the increased wages and food prices given above, he says :—

"The workman enjoys no larger margin for wants, outside the necessities of life, because food represents only one such item" (in the cost of living); "other items concern clothing, rent, fuel, light, &c. (p. 26)."

"The increase in wages which has taken place in recent years in consequence of the increased cost of living cannot have placed the workman in a better position. (p. 29)."

The Report of the Chamber of Commerce of Berlin, for the year 1908, states that "*the surplus remaining to the broad masses of the population, after defraying the most necessary expenses, has not increased in 1908.*" In plain English, the only reason why German employers have increased money wages in recent years is because, owing to the increased cost of living, due to Protection, their workers would have to go short otherwise.

## United Kingdom.

"In the case of British Real Wages, the figures given in the Twelfth Abstract of Labour Statistics" bring us down to 1907. These show that if industrial wages and the wholesale prices of

food in 1890 are each represented by 100, wages would have been represented by the figure 112·4, and the cost of food by 96 in 1907. That is to say, between 1890 and 1906 British money wages increased 12·4 per cent.—a small figure when compared with those of the increases in Germany and the States—but *the cost of food in this country fell 4 per cent.*, as compared with a rise of 18 per cent. in the States and 25 per cent. in Germany. In other words, *British Real Wages, measured as above, increased about 17 per cent. between 1890 and 1907.*

“These results may now be summed up as follows:—

“*United States Real Wages*, as measured by full-time weekly earnings and retail food prices, increased between 1890 and 1907 2·9 per cent.

“*German Real Wages*, as measured by average annual wages and the price of ‘commodities,’ increased between 1890 and 1907 about 10 per cent.

“*British Real Wages*, as measured by the rates of weekly wages and wholesale food prices, increased between 1890 and 1907 17 per cent.”

## WATCHES. (*See under Clocks.*)

## WHEAT—Consumption of, in United Kingdom.

NOTE.—In these tables the figures are based on the *Agricultural Returns* of Great Britain and Ireland and the *Annual Statements of Trade*. Wheat-flour is expressed in wheat on the assumption that 72 of flour = 100 of wheat. Exported biscuit and cake is allowed for on the assumption that 75 per cent. is flour. The allowance for seed in the case of British wheat is 2 bushels per acre.

YEAR.	Home Grown Wheat. Million Bushels.	Imported Wheat and Flour. Million Bushels.	Total. Million Bushels.	YEAR.	Home Grown Wheat. Million Bushels.	Imported Wheat and Flour. Million Bushels.	Total. Million Bushels.
1893 ..	52·4	173·3	225·7	1901 ..	47·8	187·2	235·0
1894 ..	50·1	179·4	229·5	1902 ..	49·7	201·0	250·7
1895 ..	48·6	199·1	247·7	1903 ..	50·1	217·5	267·6
1896 ..	39·8	184·4	224·2	1904 ..	39·2	220·0	259·2
1897 ..	51·6	164·6	216·2	1905 ..	38·3	212·3	250·6
1898 ..	56·5	174·4	230·9	1906 ..	53·7	209·2	262·9
1899 ..	66·5	181·3	247·8	1907 ..	51·7	214·8	266·5
1900 ..	57·0	182·5	239·5	1908 ..			

## Wheat, Import Duties on.

In Russia, Finland, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, Argentina, China, and Persia there is no import duty on wheat. In Portugal wheat imports are prohibited.

		per cwt.			per 100 lbs.
			s.	d.	
Sweden ...	...	... 2 1	India	...	... Free
Germany	...	... 2 9	South Africa	...	... 1 2
France	...	... 2 10½	Australia	...	... 1 6
Spain	...	... 3 3	New Zealand	...	... 0 9
Italy	...	... 3 0½	Canada	...	... 6d. per bushel
Austria	...	... 2 8	Newfoundland	...	... Free
U.S.A.	...	... 1 11			
Turkey	...	... 11 per cent.			
Egypt	...	... 8 per cent.			

## Wheat Imports. (Also Flour.)

The following are our imports of wheat and flour since 1841, in millions of cwts.

Average.	Wheat.	Flour.	Wheat and Flour in terms of wheat.	Total Value.
				Million £
1841-45	6·96	.95	8·28	5·48
1846-50	12·35	3·68	17·48	7·49
1851-55	15·50	3·87	20·88	13·18
1856-60	18·75	3·68	23·87	14·92
1861-65	27·90	5·40	35·40	18·81
1866-70	31·81	4·37	37·75	22·63
1871-75	43·76	5·39	50·49	30·95
1876-80	52·69	8·49	63·31	36·42
1881-85	58·87	14·34	77·28	38·65
1886-90	55·90	16·02	77·79	30·55
1891-95	69·71	19·35	96·58	32·91
1896-1900	66·66	21·10	95·97	33·59
1901-05	86·85	17·85	111·65	38·39
1906	92·97	14·19	112·68	39·49
1907	97·17	13·30	115·64	44·04
1908	91·13	12·97	109·14	45·37

## Wheat Imports—Sources of our.

The following are our imports, *in thousands of cwts.*, of Wheat and Flour from various countries since 1903:—

IMPORTS: WHEAT, GRAIN.  
(<sup>'000 cwts.</sup>)

		1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
<b>FOREIGN</b>							
Russia .. ..	'000 cwts.	17,176	23,530	24,703	15,017	10,900	4,610
Germany .. ..		310	251	300	72	19	90
Roumania .. ..		3,141	1,492	2,082	3,781	3,257	1,837
Turkey .. ..		433	431	245	242	522	403
Bulgaria .. ..		394	185	163	319	255	82
United States .. ..		18,419	4,948	5,082	17,163	17,809	18,618
Atlantic Ports ..		5,779	2,103	1,553	5,328	2,888	8,505
Pacific Ports ..		14,120	21,440	23,236	19,176	21,901	31,680
Argentina .. ..		239	915	163	801	85	2,211
Chile .. .. ..		225	96	361	58	429	180
<b>TOTAL FOREIGN</b>		<b>60,236</b>	<b>55,391</b>	<b>57,888</b>	<b>61,157</b>	<b>58,065</b>	<b>68,216</b>
<b>BRITISH</b>							
Canada .. ..		10,802	6,195	6,522	11,310	12,470	14,442
India .. ..		17,058	25,493	22,807	12,636	18,270	2,949
Australia .. ..		—	10,272	10,065	7,785	8,324	5,518
New Zealand .. ..		—	358	340	79	3	—
Other .. .. ..		35	73	1	—	36	6
<b>TOTAL BRITISH</b> ..		<b>27,895</b>	<b>42,391</b>	<b>39,735</b>	<b>31,810</b>	<b>39,103</b>	<b>22,915</b>
<b>TOTAL</b> ..		<b>88,131</b>	<b>97,782</b>	<b>97,623</b>	<b>92,967</b>	<b>97,168</b>	<b>91,131</b>

This table shows curious fluctuations in the amounts of grain received from our various sources of supply even over such a short period, and indicates the great advantage which we possess in having the whole world to draw upon for our supplies, unimpeded by import taxes.

## Wheat Imports—Sources of our (Continued).

WHEAT: MEAL AND FLOUR IMPORTS.  
(<sup>1</sup>'000 cwts.)

		1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
	FOREIGN	'000 cwts.					
Russia	.. .. ..	73	129	112	41	3	3
Germany	.. .. ..	37	265	479	191	321	309
France	.. .. ..	577	1,487	1,034	561	662	303
Austria-Hungary	.. .. ..	818	733	623	628	428	250
United States	.. .. ..	16,224	8,253	5,685	9,809	9,325	9,782
Argentina	.. .. ..	81	289	617	149	49	113
Other	.. .. ..	153	707	1,007	459	531	273
TOTAL FOREIGN	..	17,963	11,863	9,557	11,838	11,319	11,033
	BRITISH						
Canada	.. .. ..	2,637	2,046	1,330	1,810	1,838	1,706
India	.. .. ..	—	20	42	2	8	1
Australia	.. .. ..	—	786	1,020	540	131	230
Other	.. .. ..	1	8	6	—	1	—
TOTAL BRITISH	..	2,638	2,860	2,398	2,352	1,978	1,937
TOTAL	.. .. ..	20,601	14,723	11,955	14,190	13,297	12,970

## Wheat—Prices of British.

The following table gives the average prices of British wheat in quinquennial periods since 1801:—

PRICES OF BRITISH WHEAT.

		s.	d.					s.	d.
1801-05	.. .. ..	80	0	1861-65	..	..	..	47	6
1806-10	.. .. ..	87	11	1866-70	..	..	..	54	7
1811-15	.. .. ..	94	3	1871-75	..	..	..	54	8
1816-20	.. .. ..	80	10	1876-80	..	..	..	47	6
1821-25	.. .. ..	57	3	1881-85	..	..	..	40	1
1826-30	.. .. ..	61	7	1886-90	..	..	..	31	5
1831-35	.. .. ..	52	8	1891-95	..	..	..	27	11
1836-40	.. .. ..	61	2	1896-00	..	..	..	28	7
1841-45	.. .. ..	54	9	1901-05	..	..	..	27	11
1846-50	.. .. ..	51	10	1906	..	..	..	28	3
1851-55	.. .. ..	55	11	1907	..	..	..	30	7
1856-60	.. .. ..	53	4	1908	..	..	..	32	0

## Wheat—Prices and Duties.

A great amount of discussion has taken place on the effect which the proposed Tariff Reform duty of 2s. per quarter on imported foreign wheat would have in this country. This was the tax originally proposed by Mr. Chamberlain, but the Tariff Reformers' official programme now includes a duty of 1s. on Colonial wheat; and they claim, especially before City audiences, that the net result of this preferential treatment of Colonial wheat would be cheaper wheat for the British consumer—a result not very gratifying to the British grower.

A duty was imposed of 1s. per quarter on wheat imported into this country in 1902. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach (now Lord St. Aldwyn) then put it on to obtain additional revenue, and the late Lord Ritchie took it off in 1903. Lord St. Aldwyn said, with reference to this duty :—

"I thought that my duty last year on corn was so small that it would not increase the price of bread. I made a mistake. I found that in not a few cases it had the effect of giving an excuse to bakers to raise the price of bread; and therefore I must confess that I believe that doubling that duty, and also adding new duties upon meat and dairy produce, must increase the cost of food to the working classes."—(Manchester, November 5th, 1903.)

Lord Ritchie's opinion on the subject was as follows :—

"My right hon. friend (*Mr. Chaplin*) says the corn tax has not increased the price of bread; but that is an impossible thing to say. Undoubtedly the price of flour has increased to the amount of the tax, and a good deal more; and, as a good many people make their own bread, the cost of the latter must have been increased."—(House of Commons, April 23rd, 1903.)

But the question of whether or not British wheat and bread prices increased after the imposition of the Corn Duty can be settled by an appeal to official figures. The duty was imposed as from April 14th, 1902. The 4 lb. loaf, which in England and Wales averaged 4·95d. on March 1st of that year, was 5·06d. on June 2nd; and the official average price of wheat, which was 27s. 1d. per quarter in March of that year, was 30s. 11d. in May. Of course, other factors besides the Corn Duty may have helped the increase; but increase there was, undeniably, in the prices both of wheat and bread.

In a letter published on February 27th, 1909, Lord St. Aldwyn wrote :—

"No one, so far as I am aware, has ever been able to show that the repeal of the shilling duty had any effect in cheapening bread. . . . I think it unwise for those who advocate a 2s. tax on corn to argue that it will have no effect on prices. The imposition of a tax always has a greater effect on prices than its removal."

As regards the general result of an import duty on wheat, it is exactly the same as that of a duty on anything else. The wheat

cannot be imported unless the duty is paid, and the amount of that duty is added on to the price of the wheat, and is paid by the consumer. This is a truism. When Germany or France imports foreign wheat, the price of that wheat to the importer is its Free Trade price *plus* 11s. 10d. per quarter in the case of Germany, and 12s. 2d. per quarter in the case of France, to which is added the difference between the freight from the exporting country to France or Germany and the freight from that country to the United Kingdom.

The actual practice with regard to the sale and purchase of foreign wheat is thus clearly stated by Mr. Broomhall, the Editor of the *Corn Trade News*, in February, 1909 :—

"The Argentine, England, American, or Australian grower offers his wheat say to a London, Liverpool, or Antwerp broker at precisely the same price. He does not trouble himself to think whether there is an import duty in one country or another. He offers at the highest price which he considers he is likely to obtain and, as a rule, puts the offer on the London market with the option to the London broker to order the ship, on completion of loading, to whichever port he prefers. Competition is so keen in this business that a  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a quarter will decide as to the destination of the cargo.

"If the German were to offer  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per quarter less than the Free Trade price, he would not have an earthly chance of securing the cargo. He could certainly buy as cheaply as the Englishman, but not a fraction cheaper. In the event of a German buying the cargo, the wheat is paid for before the ship arrives in the German port of discharge, and as far as the seller is concerned the matter is at an end. A new phase of the matter arises, however, when the ship reaches the port of discharge. The German buyer who has paid the Free Trade price for it, cannot obtain possession of the produce until he pays to his Customs House official the 12s. duty. German native wheat of the same quality is at the same time selling at the same price as the foreign wheat, or of course the foreign wheat would not have been bought.

"At the present moment France is not importing foreign wheat, but you may rest assured that if they were they would be paying the Free Trade price, plus the duty, just as the Germans are doing at present. They will not import unless the price of their native wheat advances 12s. 2d. a quarter above the Free Trade price of wheat, for of course, until that happens the French farmer holds the market, that is subject to his always having wheat of a quality equal to the foreign. *You may take it from me, and wager any sum you like to risk, that no foreigner can procure wheat from abroad without paying the Free Trade price, plus the full duty.*"

A clear understanding of the above facts is far more important than any appeal to official or unofficial "wheat prices" in any country, such as is commonly resorted to by disputants on both sides in the fiscal controversy. *If we put a tax on imported wheat, the price of that wheat will be at least the "world's market" price plus the duty.*

## German Prices.

That this is so in Germany is accepted as an axiom. When the German wheat import duties were increased in 1902, the Government published an official Memorandum setting forth the reasons for making the increase:—

“A means whereby the agricultural interests are enabled to cover their cost of production is to be found; under the given circumstances, by *creating a factor which will determine the inland selling price through relative Protective duties. . . . Inland prices are raised*, so far as a consideration of the circumstances of the last ten years will allow us to judge, *in proportion to the duties.*”

Then followed tables showing that over a series of years the Berlin price of wheat was higher than the London price of wheat by about the amount of the German duty. The Memorandum went on to say:—

“These tables show that the difference between the inland price and the price of foreign wheat (exclusive of duty) *varies according to the amount of duty.* It is therefore to be expected that a raising of duties will favourably affect our internal agricultural interests.”

Again, Sir F. Oppenheimer, our Consul-General at Frankfort, in his annual Reports, never fails to refer to the effect of the import duties on German wheat prices. In his Report for 1908, for instance, he says: “It is the German consumer who not only pays the duty upon foreign corn, which was voted to safeguard the agrarian against foreign competition, but also pays the agriculturists a handsome profit.” He publishes figures issued by the Russian Treasury, which show that Russian wheat sells in Germany at considerably more than the Russian price *plus* the German duty, and the same thing is true of Argentine and other wheats.

We have referred above to the “official average” price of wheat in various countries; but perhaps too much attention is paid to them. In such statistics, for instance, it is impossible to make allowances for different qualities of wheat, and, generally speaking, it is impossible to know that like is being compared with like.

In 1906 the German import duty on wheat was increased from 7s. 7d. to 11s. 10d. per quarter. In 1907 the “official” Prussian price for German wheat was 43s. 1d. per quarter, the official British price for British wheat 30s. 7d. per quarter, or 12s. 6d. less than the German price. In 1908 the “official” prices were: Prussian, 43s. 8d.; British, 32s.; difference, 11s. 8d. per quarter. But a comparison of these “official” prices of home-grown wheat in various countries is not of any importance compared with the broad fact that we can import foreign wheat, duty free, while the German importer cannot get the same wheat without paying at least 11s. 10d. per quarter more for it.

## French Prices.

The same circumstance is true of the French importer. As stated by Mr. Broomhall in the extract given above, France for some time has not imported much wheat, and in 1908-9 actually had an "excess of exports." And as her exporters of flour or wheat are paid a rebate equal to the amount of the import duty on the same quantity of wheat, it is obviously not to be expected that the import duty would raise the price of French wheat to 12s. 2d. above world's price. So an import duty on coal in this country would not raise the price of coal, because we only import a few thousand pounds' worth in a year.

Since 1901, the "official" average prices of wheat per quarter in the United Kingdom and in France have been as follows:—

	FRANCE	U.K.	FRANCE	U.K.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901	... 35 3	... 26 9	1905	... 40 10
1902	... 37 9	... 28 1	1906	... 41 0
1903	... 39 8	... 26 9	1907	... 40 7
1904	... 37 11	... 28 4	1908	... 38 5

**WIRE.** (*See Iron and Steel.*)

**WOOD and TIMBER.** (*See p. 9; also under Furniture Woods.*)

**WOOD MANUFACTURES.** (*See p. 11; also under House Frames, &c., and Furniture.*)

**WOOL.** (*See p. 10.*)

## Wool—Consumption.

Statistics, taken from the Report of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce for 1908, show the total amount of Wool, Mohair, Alpaca, Shoddy, &c., retained for consumption in the United Kingdom and the amount consumed per head of the population as follows:—

Average.	Million lbs.	Per head lbs.	Average.	Million lbs.	Per head lbs.
1840-44	188·0	6·88	1885-89	539·4	14·74
1845-49	209·5	7·59	1890-94	622·8	16·35
1850-54	241·0	8·67	1895-99	685·1	17·13
1855-59	262·3	9·30	1900-04	659·1	15·73
1860-64	311·1	10·65	1905	681·7	15·87
1865-69	373·4	12·28	1906	734·3	16·91
1870-74	453·7	14·22	1907	833·4	20·84
1875-79	477·4	14·21	1908	741·3	16·65
1880-84	496·6	14·09			

## WOOL—Exports of Manufactures.

(These figures are taken from Cd. 4594 of 1909, page 84.)

From		U.K. £mil.	France. £mil.	Germany. £mil.	U.S.A. £mil.
1890-94	...	17.4	12.3	10.9	0.04
1895-99	...	16.5	11.0	10.5	0.11
1900	...	15.7	9.1	11.6	0.15
1901	...	14.2	8.5	10.5	0.15
1902	...	15.3	8.8	11.2	0.14
1903	...	15.9	8.7	12.0	0.09
1904	...	18.0	8.5	12.3	0.11
1905	...	19.6	7.7	14.4	0.09
1906	...	20.6	9.0	13.1	0.10
1907	...	22.2	9.8	14.0	0.11
1908	...	19.2	7.8	12.7	0.10

## WOOLLEN TRADE. (See p. 12.)

(The figures given below are taken from the Report of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce for 1908.)

### Woollen Trade—Imports.

The following table gives the values for certain years since 1855 of (1) British Imports of Foreign and Colonial Wools retained for home consumption; (2) Total Imports of Woollen and Worsted Yarns; (3) Imports for home consumption of Woollen manufactures.

Year.	Wool. £000	Yarn. £000	Manufactures. £000	
			...	...
1855	4,931	92	...	999
1860	9,124	472	...	1,673
1865	9,830	999	...	1,911
1870	10,691	1,635	...	3,096
1875	12,168	1,473	...	4,134
1880	13,249	1,842	...	7,080
1885	8,051	1,996	...	6,869
1890	13,313	1,935	...	7,939
1895	12,264	2,043	...	10,184
1900	15,885	2,164	...	8,505
1905	14,599	2,697	...	8,697
1906	18,023	2,785	...	8,220
1907	21,779	2,685	...	7,008
1908	16,936	2,303	...	6,129

## Woollen Trade—Exports.

This table gives values of British Exports of the following goods over a series of years, (1) Flocks and Shoddy; (2) Tops, Noils, and Waste; (3) Yarns; (4) Manufactures; (5) Apparel; (6) Totals :—

	Flocks, &c.	Tops, &c.	Yarns.	Manu- factures.	Apparel.	Total.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1855	... 35	... —	... 2,020	... 7,718	... 400	... 10,173
1860	... 146	... —	... 3,843	... 12,159	... 700	... 16,848
1865	... 199	... —	... 5,429	... 20,141	... 900	... 26,669
1870	... 116	... —	... 5,183	... 21,665	... 700	... 27,664
1875	... 357	... —	... 6,066	... 21,659	... 1,000	... 29,082
1880	... 547	... —	... 4,223	... 17,265	... 1,900	... 23,935
1885	... 289	... 485	... 5,581	... 18,847	... 1,370	... 26,572
1890	... 407	... 1,390	... 5,261	... 20,418	... 1,700	... 29,176
1895	... 359	... 1,738	... 7,259	... 19,738	... 1,500	... 30,594
1900	... 328	... 2,126	... 6,123	... 15,682	... 1,700	... 25,949
1905	... 349	... 3,797	... 6,173	... 19,597	... 2,323	... 32,239
1906	... 482	... 4,441	... 7,682	... 20,584	... 2,496	... 35,685
1907	... 475	... 4,380	... 8,570	... 22,151	... 2,545	... 38,121
1908	... 284	... 3,523	... 6,617	... 19,154	... 2,228	... 31,806

## **APPENDIX I.**

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The Table given in the two following pages is reprinted from the Board of Trade White Paper No. 329, issued on December 6th, 1909.

**UNITED KINGDOM—TRADE, COMMERCE,**  
 Return for the United Kingdom for Each of the Years 1831, 1841,  
 the Following Particulars

Year.	Popula- tion (Millions)	Death Rate per Thou- sand.	Birth Rate per Thou- sand.	Paupers, Total Average Number, Indoor and Outdoor.	Number per 10,000 of the Popula- tion.	Total Cost of Poor Relief.	Net Passenger Movement outwards to Places out of Europe.		
							Of British Nation- ality.	Of Foreign Nation- ality.	Total.
1831	24·0	*	*	*	*	1,000 £'s.	Number.	Number.	Number.
1841	26·7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
1851	27·4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
1861	29·0	*	*	1,054,099	364	7,058	*	*	3
1871	31·6	21·5	33·8	1,237,353	393	9,558	*	*	4
1881	34·9	18·7	32·5	1,010,473	290	10,155	190,295	119,983	315,409†
1891	37·8	20·0	30·4	955,843	253	10,566	115,470	65,078	183,174†
1901	41·6	17·1	28·0	979,600	236	13,873	72,016	83,618	137,557†
1906	43·7	15·6	26·8	1,113,583	255	16,742	194,671	133,878	327,572†
1907	44·1	15·4	26·0	1,102,611	250	16,668	235,092	109,857	341,316†
1908	44·5	15·2	26·4	1,110,539	249	17,103	91,156	47,667††	43,489†
				Average Number.					11
Year.	Total Quantity of Home- grown and Im- ported Wheat and Wheat- flour re- tained for Home Con- sumption.	Con- sump- tion of Wheat and Wheat- flour per Head of Popula- tion.	Value of Fish of British Taking landed on the Coasts of the United Kingdom.	Net Imports of Merchandise (deducting Re-exports).		Exports of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom.		Imports of Bullion and Specie.	Exports of Bullion and Specie.
				Total Value.	Value per Head of Population.	Total Value.	Value per Head of Population.		
				£	£	£	£	£	£
	Million Cwts.	Cwts.	1,000 £'s.	1,000 £'s.	£ s. d.	1,000 £'s.	£ s. d.	1,000 £'s.	£
1831	*	*	*	*	*	37,164	1 10 11	*	*
1841	*	*	*	*	*	51,545	1 18 6	*	3,960
1851	*	*	*	*	*	74,448	2 14 4	*	9,059
1861	*	*	*	182,955	6 6 6	125,102	4 6 5	18,747	20,811
1871	*	*	*	270,506	8 11 10	223,066	7 1 7	38,140	33,760
1881	107·9	3·1	*	333,962	9 11 6	234,022	6 14 0	16,864	22,502
1891	128·4	3·4	7,009	373,562	9 18 3	247,235	6 10 10	39,591	37,228
1901	128·0	3·1	9,542	454,148	10 19 1	280,022 ¶	6 14 9 ¶	32,217	26,015
1906	143·0	3·3	11,389	522,786	11 19 6	375,575 ¶	8 12 1 ¶	63,330	61,482
1907	143·4	3·3	11,718	553,865	12 11 2	426,035 ¶	9 13 3 ¶	73,072	67,786
1908	134·4	3·0	10,963	513,329	11 10 6	377,103 ¶	8 9 4 ¶	56,472	63,252

\* Cannot be given owing to the non-existence or incompleteness or other defects of the various statistical returns in the years indicated. † Includes a few passengers whose nationality was not distinguished.

§ Declared values throughout, unless otherwise indicated. || Computed real values in these years.

¶ Includes the value of Ships and Boats (new) and their Machinery exported. These particulars were not recorded in the Official Trade Accounts until 1899. ‡ Net movement inward.

## AND CONDITION OF PEOPLE.

1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, 1906, 1907, and 1908, showing so far as Available.

	(8)			(9)			(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
	Average Gazette Price per Quarter of Wheat, Barley and Oats.			Average Price of Beef at the Metropolitan Cattle Market.			Total Value of the Imports of Grain, Corn and Flour.	Total Value of the Imports of Meat, Alive and Dead.	Total Value of the Imports of Food and Drink (exclusive of Tobacco).	Total Value of the Imports of Food and Drink from British Colonies and Possessions.	Total Value of the Imports of Food and Drink (exclusive of Tobacco) per Head of Population.
	Wheat	Barley.	Oats.	First Quality	Second Quality	Inferior Quality	§	§	§	§	§
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	£'s.	£'s.	£'s.	1,000 £'s.	£ s. d.
1 66 4	38 0	25 4	*	*	*	*	1,000	1,000	1,000	*	1831
2 64 4	32 10	22 5	4 21	3 9	3 41	*	*	*	*	*	1841
3 38 6	24 9	18 7	3 21	2 93	2 53	*	*	*	*	*	1851
4 55 4	36 1	23 9	4 6	4 0	3 31	37,383	4,246	83,922	17,034	2 18 0	1861
5 56 8	36 2	25 2	5 41	4 101	3 111	45,601	10,713	123,931	21,853	3 18 9	1871
6 45 4	31 11	21 9	5 6	5 1	4 5	65,570	25,212	175,694	31,243	5 0 9	1881
7 37 0	28 2	20 0	4 11	4 4	2 9	66,317	29,851	184,885	35,965	4 18 0	1891
8 26 9	25 2	18 5	4 7	3 11	2 4	65,209	50,390	220,016	41,388	5 6 2	1901
9 28 3	24 2	18 4	4 7	3 6	2 9	67,881	52,026	233,439	58,430	5 6 11	1906
10 30 7	25 1	18 10	4 8	3 7	2 9	75,409	51,888	243,075	63,757	5 10 3	1907
11 32 0	25 10	17 10	4 9	3 9	2 8	72,733	49,448	238,967	53,248	5 7 5	1908
(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)				
Income Tax, Yield of each Penny (Years commencing 6th April).	Gross Income brought under Income Tax (Years commencing 6th April).	Amount standing to Credit of Depositors in Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks.	Consumption of Pig Iron per head of Population.	Total Registered Tonnage of British Shipping.	Tonnage of British Shipping entered and cleared in the Foreign Trade at Ports in the United Kingdom.	Tonnage of Foreign Shipping entered and cleared in the Foreign trade at Ports in the United Kingdom.	Total Clearings at the London Bankers' Clearing House.				Year.
£	Million £	1000 £'s.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Million £.				
1 *	—	13,719	*	2,224,356	4,668,053	1,770,656	*				1831
2 *	—	25,782	*	2,935,399	6,790,490	2,628,057	*				1841
3 *	—	30,278	*	3,662,344	9,820,876	6,159,322	*				1851
4 1,162,250	352	41,533	0·11	4,806,826	15,420,532	11,175,109	*				1861
5 1,654,277	482	55,845	0·11	5,694,123	28,034,748	13,513,130	4,826				1871
6 1,915,683	601	81,198	0·19	6,691,996	41,543,259	16,406,286	6,357				1881
7 2,238,130	717	120,854	0·17	8,279,297	53,957,435	20,855,185	6,848				1891
8 2,531,462	902	206,810	0·18	9,608,420	62,270,021	34,409,873	9,561				1901
9 2,666,867	979	230,362	0·19	11,167,332	76,465,979	44,324,331	12,711				1906
10 2,698,000	982	232,669	0·19	11,485,099	81,308,442	51,963,278	12,730				1907
11 2,833,000	++	235,439	0·18	11,541,394	77,869,772	53,576,424	12,120				1908

\*\* Trustee Savings Banks only 1831-1861. The Post Office Savings Bank commenced operations in 1864. The particulars included for the Post Office Savings Bank relate to calendar years, and those for Trustee Savings Banks to years ended 20th November. The figures for 1881-1908 include the Government stock held for depositors.

†† Not yet available.

§§ Estimate furnished by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.



## **APPENDIX II.**



## MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S UTTERANCES.

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### THE EFFECTS OF A FOOD TAX.

"Lastly, Sir, is anyone bold enough to propose that we should put duties upon food? Mr. Ecroyd no doubt has the courage of his convictions. He has referred to the sacrifices which he would require from the working classes, and he does not hesitate to make the demand upon them that they should pay an extra price of 10 per cent. upon the most important articles of their daily consumption. Well, Sir, I can conceive it just possible, although improbable, that, under the sting of great suffering and *deceived by misrepresentations, the working classes might be willing to try strange remedies, and might be foolish enough to submit for a time to a proposal to tax the food of the country,* but one thing I am certain of. If this course is ever taken, and if the depression were to continue or recur, it would be the signal for a state of things more dangerous and more disastrous than anything which has been seen in this country since the repeal of the Corn Law. With the growth of intelligence on the part of the working classes, and with the knowledge they now possess of their own power, the *reaction against such a policy would be attended by consequences so serious that I do not like to contemplate them.* A tax on food would mean a decline in wages. It would certainly involve a reduction in their productive value—the same amount of money would have a smaller purchasing power. It would mean more than this, for it would raise the price of every article produced in the United Kingdom, and it would indubitably bring about the loss of that gigantic export trade which the industry and energy of the country working under conditions of absolute freedom has been able to create."

*House of Commons, August 12th, 1881.*

### IS PREFERENCE PROTECTION?

"The House has learnt from the hon. member (Mr. Ecroyd) that the question whether a man is a Protectionist or not depends entirely upon his motive at the time. It is not a question of fact; but it is a question of intention; and if a man comes to this House and proposes to levy a 5s. duty on corn to protect the farmer, he would be a Protectionist; but if another man comes down and proposes to lay the same duty on foreign corn, and said, in the words of the hon. member, that he did it "quietly and peacefully, in order to determine the flow of capital and labour by driving industry to the Colonies," and although the same results may follow, although the action is similar and the conditions are identical, in the one case it is to be called 'Protection,' while in the other the name of 'Protection' is to be indignantly repudiated. That seems to be a question beyond ordinary comprehension. It is a problem in casuistry rather than a question of practical politics."

*House of Commons, March 24th, 1882.*

## PROTECTION IS IRREVOCABLE.

"The hon. and learned member for West Staffordshire [Mr. Staveley Hill], at all events, stated most distinctly that his proposal was only to levy these taxes as a matter of temporary emergency, and until other nations had been brought to their senses. I wish to point out that it was upon similar promises that the Protective Tariff of the United States was introduced. It was to be a temporary measure, and was to stimulate the infant industries of the country. But, although those industries have grown to manhood and have been sufficiently stimulated, we do not find the duties removed. On the contrary, they have gone from bad to worse, increasing the duties from year to year; and the artificially created industries have become such a power in the State that it has been found almost impossible to deal with them."

*House of Commons, March 24th, 1882.*

## COMPARISONS ARE MISLEADING.

"But whatever may have been our own progress, we are told that we ought still to be discontented, because other countries have made still greater progress. . . . But if other countries have progressed more than we have, I should have said that *that proved nothing either for or against Protection*; because in dealing with this matter it must be borne in mind what a multiplicity of factors we have to take into consideration in estimating the relative progress of foreign nations compared with our own. We should have to take into account the *increase of population*, the *development of the means of communication*, and many other matters besides the effect of fiscal regulations. A country in which the population is greatly increasing is likely to increase its products more rapidly than a country in which the population is stationary. Again, if at the period which we select for our comparison, one country is without an efficient means of communication, and these have been subsequently supplied, we should expect the increase to be greater than in an older country, where such means of communication have existed all along. We must consider also such special circumstances as war, famine, bad harvests and other things which affect trade at particular times and in particular countries. Lastly, we have to take into account—and this is of particular importance in considering the difference which a calculation of percentages apparently shows—*the initial condition of the country with which you make your comparison*. In other words, if you were comparing a country with a trade of £1,000,000 and a country with a trade of £10,000,000, and both had increased their trade by the amount, say, of £10,000,000, it is quite clear that the increase in both cases is the same; but, calculated by percentages, the proportion of increase in the one case is 1,000 per cent., and in the other only 100 per cent. The increase is the same in the amount in both cases; but the proportion in the one case is ten times as great as it is in the other. I hold that the true measure of a country's prosperity is to take both her exports and imports."

*House of Commons, March 24th, 1882.*

## FOOD TAXES AND PRICES.

"The hon. member for West Staffordshire [Mr. Staveley Hill] says, in the Amendment he has put upon the Paper, that duties are to be levied on foreign produce, provided that nothing is done to raise the price or diminish the supply of food. *I do not know whether the hon. member thinks that you can tax food without raising its price. I would, at any rate,*

*lay down the axiom, to begin with, that that is impossible, and it is only by increasing the price that the object of the hon. member for Preston [Mr. Ecroyd, who wished to tax food] can be achieved, and that you can stimulate the growth and prosperity of our Colonies.* The modest proposal he makes would raise the price of home-grown corn also, and the result would be that the British consumer would have to bear a tax of £40,000,000, £14,000,000 of which would go to the revenue if the foreign importations continued, and £26,000,000 would go not to the farmer or the labourer—for if anything is proved by the experience of the past, it is that it would go neither to the farmer nor the labourer—but it would go to the landed interest, to enable them to keep up their rents. All I have to say of a proposal of that kind is that it could never be adopted by the country, or if adopted it would be swept away upon the first recurrence of serious distress."

*House of Commons, March 24th, 1882.*

#### DANGERS OF RETALIATION.

"*If we are to retaliate upon foreign countries by imposing a duty on food imported from those countries into England, as a means of inducing them to alter their tariffs, and effecting a transfer of the supply of food to the Colonies, I do not see where the food of the country is to come from, because it is impossible that in anything like a reasonable time our Colonies could produce an amount of food at all approaching to the quantity required.* But even if they could, at a future period, produce it, they could not possibly accept payment for it in our manufactures. . . . The hon. baronet (Sir John Lubbock) has pointed out with perfect truth that, if we are to enter upon this game of Retaliation, it is a game at which two can play, and that we shall play at a great disadvantage. We stand to lose in the game of Retaliation; and, therefore, I cannot but regard the proceeding as a very risky one."

*House of Commons, March 24th, 1882.*

#### THE BAD OLD TIMES.

"The farmers will be very foolish indeed if they do follow Mr. Lowther after this will-o'-the wisp. If they study history at all they will find that the condition of the farmer was never so hopeless, and that the state of the labourer was never so abject as when the corn was kept up at high value by a prohibitive or protective duty; when it was 64s., or even rose to 120s. a quarter. The food of the people was taxed to raise the rent of the landlord. None of the plunder found its way into the farmers' pockets, and I will tell them that unless they can secure permanence of occupation no artificial alteration in the price of wheat will help them one atom."

*Ipswich, January 14th, 1885.*

#### PROTECTION FOR AGRICULTURE.

"As to the prospect of any return to Protection in any shape or form, I think it is inconceivable that the agricultural interest would allow manufacturers to be protected while food imports went free, and I think it is equally improbable that the working classes of this country will ever again submit to the sufferings and miseries which were inflicted upon them by the Corn Laws in order to keep up the rents of the landlords. If that is the programme of the Tory Party we have only, in answer to it, to recall the history of those times when Protection starved the poor, and when the country was brought by it to the brink of revolution."

*Eighty Club, April 28th, 1885.*

## THE FRUITS OF PROTECTION.

"The owners of property—those who are interested in the existing state of things, the men who have privileges to maintain—would be glad to entrap you from the right path by raising the cry of Fair Trade, under which they cover their demand for Protection, and in connection with which they would tax the food of the people in order to raise the rents of the landlord. Protection very likely might, it probably would, have this result—it would increase the incomes of the owners of great estates, and it would swell the profits of the capitalists who were fortunate enough to engage in the best protected industries. But it would lessen the total production of the country, it would diminish the rate of wages, and it would raise the price of every necessary of life."

Birmingham, May 5th, 1885.

## FETTERS v. FREEDOM.

"I should like to carry this a little further, and call your attention to one or two particular cases in which special industries [in the United States] have been practically ruined by the protective tariffs. I will not speak of the shipping trade, which has passed almost wholly into the hands of the English shipowners, owing to the restriction and trammels which the Americans have placed upon themselves. I will not speak of the iron trade—one of the most heavily protected industries, and in which 80,000 workmen are now out of work. I will call your attention to the case of the boot and shoe trade, which happens to be one of the most prosperous of our industries now, and which is continually increasing both in its production, and, above all, in its exportation to foreign markets. This is a trade which has been created by our Free Trade system, and depends upon the access which the manufacturers have to every market in the world for the supply of the raw material, while, at the same time, their great competitors in America and France load their traders with burdens upon imports, upon hide and leather, so that practically competition has become impossible, and English goods are driving the American and French goods out of all the neutral markets of the world."

Cobden Club, June 13th, 1885.

## GERMANY IN 1885.

"Now, I want to ask you if Germany has benefited by this Fair Trade? We talk of depression here, but it is nothing to the depression and privation in Germany. I have got the official reports. The complaints are universally of depression, of want of employment, of want of profit in all the leading industries of the country. The working classes have not the same power that they have in this country; or, at all events, they have not been accustomed to take advantage of it. They have been induced to support those proposals by very much the same specious arguments which are now offered to you."

"They were told when this new policy was first adopted, that corn would not be taxed; corn has been taxed. In the first instance a small duty was put on corn that was not found to be sufficient for the agriculturist; and the duty has now been increased, and the consequence is that food, especially bread, is much dearer in Germany than in this country."

Birmingham, November 7th, 1885.

## PROTECTION AND POVERTY.

*"If you are going to tax the bread of the people you will affect every household in the land, and you will throw back the working classes of this country to the starvation wages and the destitution from which Mr. Gladstone and Sir Robert Peel have relieved them."*

Birmingham, November 7th, 1885.

## FREE TRADE AN ADVANTAGE.

"No doubt it is very irritating to persons in particular trades to have free imports competing with them while heavy duties are laid against them in foreign countries. But I will venture to assert here, and I will prove it in the course of this election, that it is to our advantage really in a Free Trade country, while other countries hamper themselves with protective duties."

Birmingham, November 7th, 1885.

## THE BALANCE OF TRADE.

"We cannot maintain by ourselves, by our own efforts alone, the vast population that is crowded within the limits of our territory. We depend upon our foreign trade. But if by any means—by Protection or any other—you shut the door upon foreign goods, you may be quite certain that the result will be that there will be fewer English goods that will go abroad. All foreign trade is a matter of exchange. I know there are some people who are led astray by the insufficient study of Board of Trade statistics. They say that the amount of our exports is less in money value than the amount of our imports, and they say the balance of trade is against us, and the country is being drained of its gold. This is an entire mistake. If that were true, if the balance between the amount of our exports and the amount of our imports were paid in gold, there would not be a single sovereign in this country, and there would not have been for the last thirty years. But, on the contrary, the stock of gold has increased within the present generation, and the real fact is that *every pennyworth of foreign goods that comes into this country, is paid for by a similar amount of English goods that go out of the country*—either, that is to say, English goods directly, as represented by the figures of the Board of Trade, or English work in the shape of, for instance, the freight of shipping transport; and in that way, therefore, *whatever foreign countries may do in their endeavour to close their markets to our trade, as long as they send goods here, they are obliged to take our goods in return.*"

Birmingham, March 30th, 1895.

## EFFECTS OF SMALL DUTIES.

"Now, Sir, do not let us minimise the proposition we are asked to consider, [viz: the imposition of a moderate *ad valorem* duty on all imports from foreign countries for purposes of an Imperial Commercial Union.] It would involve in the case of the United Kingdom *a most serious disturbance of our trade*; it would be a great change in the principles which, for many years past, have guided our commercial policy. It involves the imposition of a duty, it may be a small one, but it is a duty upon food and upon raw material, and whatever may be the result of imposing such a duty as to which, if I had time, I could discourse for many minutes—whatever may be the actual result, *the tendency is to increase the cost of living which would intensify the pressure upon the working classes of this country*: and it would also have *a tendency to increase the cost of production*,

*which would put us, of course, in a worse position than now in competition with foreign countries in neutral markets. I see no use in shutting my eyes to the consequences of the proposition—which I desire to consider with an impartial mind. The first thing is to establish the facts, and the facts are as I have stated. . . . It is a very startling proposal for a Free Trade country—and I say that in its present form it is a proposal which it is impossible for us to adopt."*

*Canada Club, March 25th, 1896.*

#### A REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE.

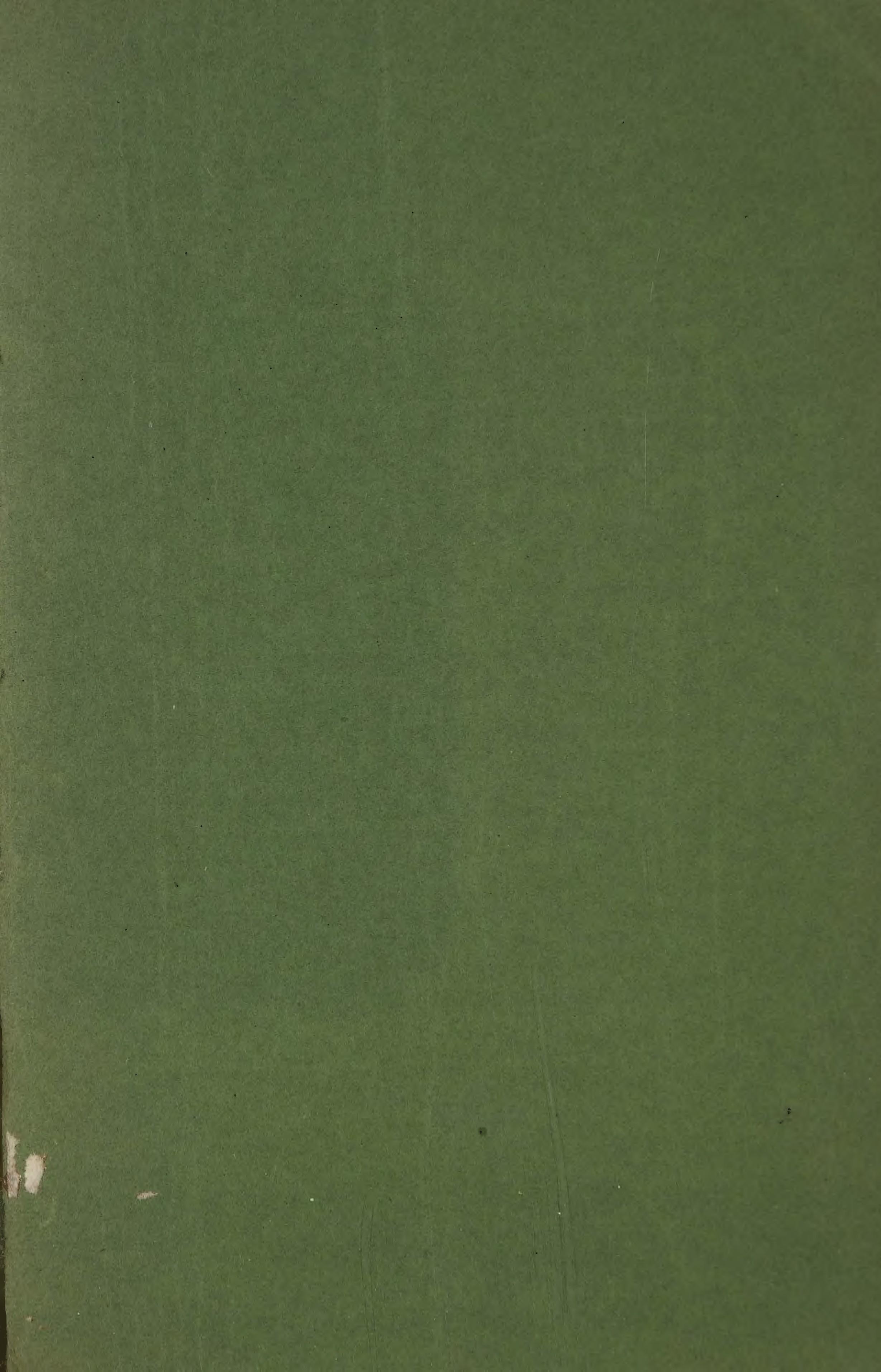
"This proposal requires that we should abandon our system in favour of theirs, and it is in effect that while the Colonies should be left absolutely free to impose what protective duties they please both on foreign countries and upon British commerce, they should be required to make a small discrimination in favour of British trade, in return for which we are expected to change our whole system and impose duties on food and raw material. Well, I express again my own opinion when I say that there is *not the slightest chance that in any reasonable time this country or the Parliament of this country would adopt so one-sided an agreement.* The foreign trade of this country is so large, and the foreign trade of the Colonies is comparatively so small, that a small preference given to us upon that foreign trade by the Colonies would make so trifling a difference—would be so small a benefit to the total volume of our trade—that *I do not believe the working classes of this country would consent to make a revolutionary change for what they would think to be an infinitesimal gain.*"

*London, June 9th, 1896.*

#### "TRUSTEES OF CIVILISATION."

" . . . We, in our colonial policy, as fast as we acquire new territory and develop it, develop it as trustees of civilisation for the commerce of the world. We offer in all these markets over which our flag floats the same opportunities, the same open field to foreigners that we offer to our own subjects, and upon the same terms. In that policy we stand alone, because all other nations, as fast as they acquire new territory—acting, as I believe, most mistakenly in their own interests, and, above all, in the interests of the countries that they administer—all other nations seek at once to secure the monopoly for their own products by preferential and artificial methods."

*Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, November 13th, 1896.*



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